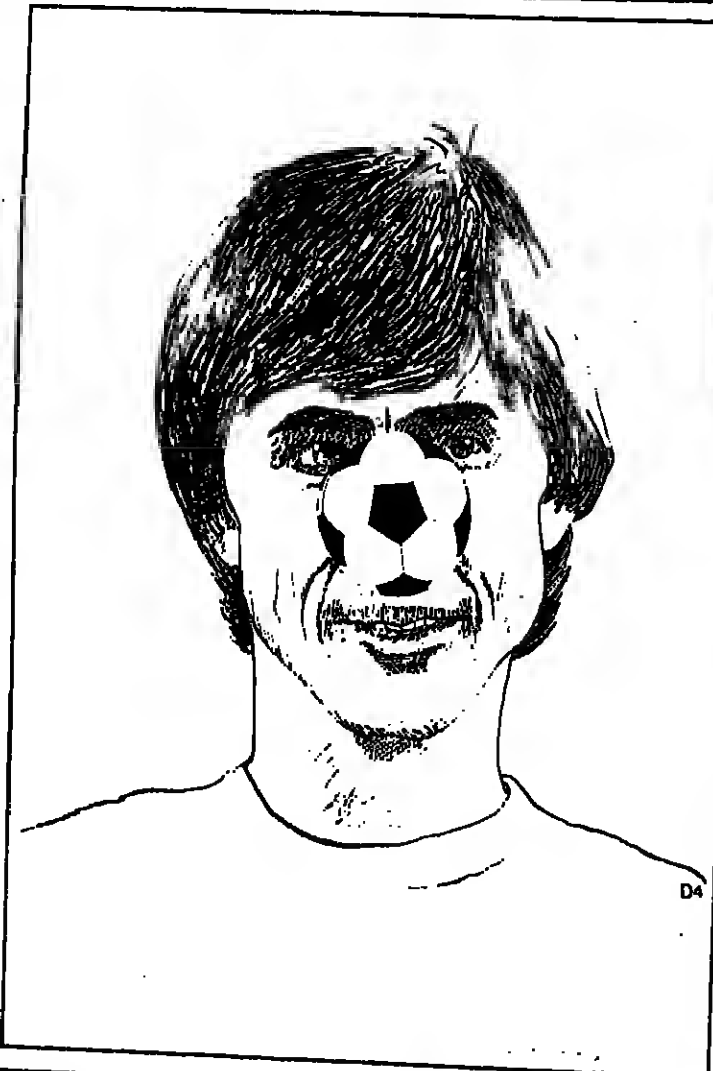




# THE STAR'S WORLD CUP CONTEST BY FRANZ BECKENBAUER



DISCOVER  
THE  
STARS OF  
INTER-  
NATIONAL  
SOCCER!



## YOU ARE A SOCCER EXPERT?..THEN LET ME CHALLENGE YOU!

### QUESTION 7 QUESTION 8

■ Refereeing decisions can often play a decisive part in the outcome of World Cup matches. How could I forget the 1986 World Cup final when I was a player in the West German team which lost 4-2 to England after a controversial goal in extra-time with the score at 2-2. England's Geoff Hurst struck a shot which hit the underside of the bar and bounced down before being cleared by my teammate Weber. Was it a goal or not? After consulting the linesman, referee Dieter pointed to the centre circle - a goal, to the delight of the English fans. Perhaps you can tell me the name of another match official, who was the referee to award the first ever penalty in a World Cup final. Who was he?

■ The modern game with its emphasis on speed and fitness has made goalscoring more difficult. The fact is borne out in the statistics. The first five World Cup championships saw a goals-per-game average that never dropped below 3.5. At the last World Cup finals in Mexico the average was just 2.5. That equalled the previous low in 1974 in West Germany. I do not suppose you will see the like of one particular World Cup when one of the final groups produced 41 goals in just five matches. The group winner scored a total of 27 goals in five games, but this team did not win the tournament. Although unbeaten in four years and clear favourites, it was defeated in the final. Which team was it and which series am I referring to? Who were the champions?

## WHO WILL MAKE IT?

### Brazil Self- proclaimed title favourites



Sebastiao Lazaroni,  
Brazilian coach

follow, "Brazil again," was his laconic reply.

The 39 year-old coach has grounds for optimism, despite the fact that he was no more than an average footballer in his playing days and that Brazil has won only one title under his guidance - the South American Championship in 1989. After all, Brazil is the most successful World Cup participant of all time. The Confederação Brasileira de Futebol (CBF) is the only football association to have been represented in all 13 World Cup final rounds.

In addition to winning the title three times, the Brazilians were

runners-up in 1950, third in 1982 and 1978, and fourth in 1974. The last two World Cups proved disappointing for them, however. Clever play by Italy in 1982 and by France four years later put an end to Brazil's hopes.

The stars of the Seleção are still played for Brazilian clubs. But this is no longer the case. For the 1990 World Cup, Lazaroni will have to rely on players who earn their living abroad to fill the key positions. The showpiece of the squad is the attack, led by Antonio de Oliveira Filho, better known as Careca. The 29-year-old Careca, who plays for Napoli, is an all-out attacker who combines skill with speed and has a "nose" to score goals.

Another automatic choice is Romário de Souza Faria, who scored at the Olympic tournament in Seoul. Romário, as he is commonly known, plays in the Dutch league Eindhoven. The Brazilians are also a force to be reckoned with. Bull and keeper Taffarel and defender Mozer, the defence has scored only two goals in the internationals.

## ★ PRIZES ★

■ In co-operation with the sportswear company adidas and car manufacturer Mercedes, the following prizes will be offered to winners:

- 1-One original adidas Worldcup track suit as officially worn by one of the national teams participating in the final;
- 2-One pair of the original adidas football shoes "Etrusco Unico" with titanium studs;
- 3-One original adidas Worldcup football jersey as officially worn by one of the national teams participating in the final;
- 4-One original adidas football "Etrusco Unico," the official football of the Worldcup final in Italy;
- 5-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:10, of the legendary sports car Mercedes 300 SL, year of construction 1954;
- 6-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:24, of the Mercedes car Simplex, year of construction 1902;
- 7-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:18, of the Mercedes car SSK, year of construction 1928.

## C O U P O N

■ To participate in this competition fill this coupon and send it to: World Cup 90, P O Box (9313), Amman Jordan.

Name: .....

Telephone: .....

P O Box: .....

City: .....

Conditions: To be eligible to win one of the grand prizes you must identify 6 players in competition A and answer at least 8 questions correctly from competition B.

You can send as many coupons as you like to increase your chances of winning.

Coupons should be sent on weekly basis.

Inside

Franz Beckenbauer challenges  
The Star readers in the first of a  
series of questions on the World  
Cup championships

The 1990  
World Cup Contest  
Valuable prizes  
Details on the back page

# The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

Amman, 10-16 1990

اسبوعية سياسية مستقلة

Vol: 1 No:16



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### Deutschland, Deutschland

The Germans are racing toward unity. The prospect of a united, prosperous Germany in the heart of Europe is again raising fears - and hopes. In this issue The WorldPaper presents views from Germany, and Poland on Deutschland's rebirth.



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الشرق الأوسط



## ATF Meeting focuses on education in Arab world

AMMAN (Star)-The Arab Thought Forum (ATF) will open its annual meetings in Amman Saturday 12 May under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

The meetings, which will be attended by representatives from a number of Arab countries, will be held under the slogan of "Education in the Arab World in the 21st Century."

The three-day conference will hold seven working sessions and will conclude its work by issuing the "Amman Declaration on Education in the Arab World in the

21st Century."

Participants at the meetings will present working papers on the world order and education development experiments, educational policies in the Arab world, and other issues related to education.

The ATF has just completed a four-year study on education in the Arab world in the 21st century.

The General Assembly of the ATF will hold its meeting on Friday 11 May to discuss a report on the status of the Arab world during 1989.

## Jordanian - Swedish seminar addresses children's literature

AMMAN (Star)-Efforts to develop and improve good literature for children and young people will be discussed at a seminar in the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman on May 14-15 with participation from Jordan and Sweden.

Jordanian authors specialising in children's literature will present the current situation for this kind of literature in Jordan. Swedish literature will be presented by Dr. Stefan Mahqvist of the University of Uppsala, writer and producer of TV-programmes on children's literature.

Challenges of translating children's literature from one language to another will be discussed by Mrs Muna Zureikat-Hennings, a Jordanian who is living in Sweden and who has translated several Swedish children's books from Swedish to Arabic including the well-known "Burhan" - books and books by the world-famous Swedish writer Astrid Lindgren.

Her works also include the books about the rebellious "Pippi Longstocking" about whom a film was shown on Jordan Television two years ago.

## On the edge

● The Cypriot President Mr George Vassiliou will pay an official visit to Jordan on 26 May.

Mr Vassiliou will hold talks with His Majesty King Hussein on recent developments in the area as well as bilateral relations between the two countries.

● The Arab Professional Unions meetings will open in Amman on Saturday 11 May under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

The meeting will discuss the influx of Soviet Jew to Israel and the occupied Arab territories and means of supporting the Intifada.

● Ministries of Information of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) countries have decided to carry out joint studies on world public opinion towards the region and its causes.

The studies will be conducted in co-operation with ACC countries information offices abroad and other specialised Arab organisations.

● Sources at the Environment Department have said that the Pelobates fuscus, an amphibious minnow animal that lives in the gulf of Ayub is threatened with extinction.

The department will co-operate with the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature to protect the threatened animal.

## Focus on Parliament

By Ahmad Al-Husayni

● Spokesman of the Muslim bloc At the House Dr Abdul Latif Arabiyat has said that the Muslim Brothers will in the coming few days issue a statement explaining their position on the peace marches that will be organised by the Professional Unions Association and the Arab American Anti Discrimination Committee (ADC).

The Star has learned that the Muslim Brothers will not participate in either of the marches and that Dr Arabiyat has informed the Ministry of Interior Affairs that the movement strongly opposes the organisation of the peace marches.

● Speaker of the House of Parliament Mr Ahmad Al-Layth has said today Thursday that the Undersecretary of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Juan Carlos de la Torre, has expressed his concern

## Warning of the grave conditions of municipalities in occupied land Freij says Intifada will continue regardless of Arab support

By a Star Staff Writer

AMMAN - Mayor of Bethlehem Mr Elias Freij has severely criticised Arab governments for failing to extend financial aid to municipalities in the occupied territories, saying that more than 20 Arab municipal councils in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are going through suffocating financial crises.

"Municipalities in the occupied territories are the only Arab authorities providing public services to the citizens and it is therefore important that they continue to exist as symbols of Arab presence in the occupied territories," he said in an interview with The Star during his short stay in Amman after a visit to the United States and Europe.

Mr Freij called on Arab governments to cover the expenses of West Bank and Gaza municipalities through reaching twinning agreements, among cities in the occupied territories and other Arab cities.

He said that such an agreement had existed between the cities of Bethlehem and Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE), but all his attempts to revitalise it have come to no avail. "I have sent four letters to this effect to the president of the UAE Sheikh Zayed ben Sultan Al-Nahyan but I have so far received no answer," he said.

Mr Freij said that shortages in the finances of the municipalities in the occupied territories were due to the Intifada and the rapid way in which the Israeli occupation authorities levy taxes from the Arab citizens. "Israel levies heavy taxes from the Arab citizens who are not able to pay more taxes, we did not ask for financial help before the outbreak of the Intifada," he said.

However, Mr Freij said that the Intifada will continue even if the Palestinians in the occupied territories receive no financial support from the Arab countries because the Intifada erupted to protect "the destiny of the people."

"But, the Palestinian people who are struggling in the occupied territories are entitled to assistance from their Arab brethren in the Arab countries who are quite capable of extending aid to them," he said.

Asked about his expectations about the peace process in the area Mr Freij said that "it is out of hope that there is talk about peace negotiations." He said that the Israeli government wants to keep the occupied Arab territories and considers the West Bank and Gaza as part of Israel. "On these conditions, Israel does not object to peace if the Arabs want it," he said. He said that Israel needs the occupied territories to settle the one million immigrants who are expected to arrive in it and Shamir has publicly stated that "Greater Israel needs a greater land."

However, Mr Freij said he supported the peace offensive that the Palestine Liberation Organisation has launched because

it has produced positive impact on both the official and popular levels in Europe and many other countries.

Mr Freij said that if Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir forms the new Israeli government it will be dominated by members of the extreme right, who reject peace and who will intensify settlement activities in the occupied territories.

But, he said, Israel is not the only country in the world and there are many parties in Israel who want peace.

Mr Freij said that he was satisfied with the outcome of the talks which he recently held with US Secretary of State James Baker in Washington.

He said that Secretary Baker was determined to pursue the

peace process in the area, and to convene a Palestinian-Israeli meeting in Cairo.

He said he supported the convening of such a meeting because it means, "the recognition of the existence of the Palestinian people and their rights - something that Israel has denied since 1967."

Mr Freij criticised the American Congress for adopting a resolution recognising Jerusalem as the eternal and undivided capital of Israel, but also blamed Arab Americans for not successfully explaining Arab causes to the American people.

He said he felt an ignorance on part of Americans of Arab causes and that the Arab "voice is not heard in the United States."



Mr Elias Freij, "Baker is determined to pursue the peace process in the area"

# FLORA ...

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Queen Noor visits Jordan Design and Trade Centre

## Project aims to promote Jordan as source of unique, creative crafts

AMMAN (Star) - Her Majesty Queen Noor paid an informal visit Sunday to the Jordan Design and Trade Centre, the commercial arm of the National Handicrafts Development Project.

During the visit, the Queen was briefed on various lines of products on display at the centre's new location in Shmeisani, as well as the National Handicrafts Development Project's ambitious training plan for this year.

She also discussed the activities in which the National Handicrafts Development Project is currently engaged: product development, sales, promotion and project co-ordination.

The National Handicrafts Development Project, one of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's major schemes, is largely financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The project seeks to professionalise the country's handicrafts marketing activities by encouraging producers to respond to existing demand, reduce reliance on informal networks and charity sales outlets, initiate mainstream selling activities (wholesale, retail, export), and establish acceptable standards of operation.

To date, the project has focused on textiles, weaving and embroidery, where the largest number of individuals are employed in Jordan's handicraft sector.

Assistance has been provided to several voluntary organisations and private entrepreneurs, reaching more than 800 beneficiaries in Amman and Irbid governorates and in the District of



Queen Noor

Madaba.

The project has recently established The Jordan Design and Trade Centre to further expand the market for the Kingdom's handicraft products. The Centre is a multi-function facility for the development of new products, marketing, and training in such areas as management, industrial production, and retail merchandising.

Through the Centre, the Project now seeks to develop sustainable markets and commercially viable production units, and to promote Jordan as a source of unique and creative crafts.

The Centre staff will attract buyers through a promotion programme designed to maximise exposure in local, regional and international markets. Buyers will then be able to place orders for existing merchandise or to work with the Centre's design staff to develop their own exclusive lines.

The Centre will also develop an active cultural programme that will engage well-known architects, painters and other artists in developing entire product lines to which their names can be attached.

The Centre is engaged in building a training team to design and oversee the implementation of training activities targeted at the grassroots level. Training will focus on transforming subsidised, charitable production activities into businesses with instruction in such issues as understanding the needs of a business, costing, pricing, planning, order processing, delegation of authority, financial controls, and basic supervisory skills.

It is exporting to approximately 50 retailers in the United States through its representative, Aid to Artisans, a non-profit product development and marketing organisation based outside New York. Its products are also available at the Bani Hamida House of Rainbow Street and the Jerash Handicraft Shop in the Jerash Tourist Centre.

Monthly sales at the Jerash Ladies Benevolent Society have consistently increased three to four times since the Jordan Design and Trade Centre started marketing their products in April last year; employment and wages have also increased by the same figure. In Bani Hamida, beneficiaries have increased from 275 to 650 women and wages have tripled.

The project has provided assistance to several non-governmental voluntary organisations (the Jerash Ladies Benevolent Society, Save the Children's Bani Hamida Bedouin Women's Weaving Project and Jordan River Designs, the Nazek Al Hariri Centre for Special Education, and various community development centres), the Urban Development Department, UNRWA, and several private sector entrepreneurs.

## Jordanian-Swedish trade bound to pick up

Special to The Star

UNDER A Swedish government decision valid from 1 May Jordanian products are now able to enter the Swedish market without paying duties. The Swedish decision gives a firm underpinning to the recommendations of the Jordan-Sweden Market seminar which was held in Amman this week to find ways of promoting trade between the two countries.

The two-day seminar was sponsored by the Amman Chamber of Industry and the Swedish Embassy in Jordan and was designed to inform Jordanian businessmen about market possibilities in Sweden and to give them practical information on exporting.

Jordanian-Swedish trade declined in recent years, with imports from Sweden declining from JD 16 million in 1988 to JD 14 million in 1989 and exports to Sweden shrinking from JD 1 million in 1988 to a mere JD 400,000 in 1989.

The decline did not seem to discourage the Jordanian business community however and well over 100 people attended the first day of the seminar which explored prospects for Jordanian exports in Swedish markets, the nature and practicalities of the Swedish market itself, the role of the commercial banks and the particular prospects for Jordan's agricultural products, leather goods and textiles, pharmaceuticals and light industries including electronics, household appliances and handicrafts.

Both aides were confident that Jordanian companies can find opportunities in Sweden which takes \$5200 in imports per capita

annually but the Swedish participants made it clear that they had to go looking for sales and not expect customers to come to them.

Swedish Ambassador in Amman Lars Lonnback was enthusiastic in his support for an expansion in Jordanian exports to Sweden, he said, the more likely to buy, bringing benefits to both sides. Ambassador Lonnback felt the seminar was successful in covering the problems of finance, quality control and shipment which must be solved if Jordanians export to Sweden are to expand.

He joined Amman Chamber of Industry Chairman Khalid Abu Hassan in presenting a number of recommendations for further action to support the export drive. These included the sending of a Jordanian trade delegation to Sweden within the next six months, the establishment of a business mission in Jordan to offer training to Jordanian exporters to which the Swedish side is willing to send lecturers, the staging of a Jordanian export exhibition in Stockholm within the coming year and the extension of services to visiting Jordanian exporters by Swedish commercial and trade agencies.

A suggestion was also made that Jordan set up some form of permanent export agency in Sweden but Mr Lonnback would-be exporters to take advantage of the free services offered by Sweden's Import Export Office for Products for Developing Countries (IMPED) first before undertaking the expense of establishing their own office. (PAD)

## New musical on show in Amman

# Play depicts the tragic lives of the Bronte family

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to The Star

AMMAN - On Saturday 12 May, the Royal Cultural Centre will be the venue for the premier of a new musical, Bronte. Written by Mrs Vanessa Batrouni, the musical traces the story of the tragic lives of Charlotte, Emily and Anne Bronte, three sisters who among them wrote some of the greatest pieces of prose ever written in the English language. Through songs and vignettes taken from their books and from the circumstances in which they lived, the musical tries to reveal the driving force behind the unique creativity of these women while at the same time causing us to reflect on the way we live now.

The play which was staged briefly a year ago by some students at Oxford University, has been a long time in the making. The initial idea began over 10 years ago with Mrs Batrouni, well known in Amman for her many excellent theatrical productions, which included "Annie", "Oliver", The Threepenny Opera and more recently Cole Porter's "Kiss me Kate".

"After re-reading Jane Eyre," Mrs Batrouni explained, "I became very interested in Charlotte Bronte; the book's author. Research into Charlotte's life led me to become fascinated with the rest of her family who lived a drab, lonely existence in the vicarage at Haworth which sat on the edge of the vast, bleak wilderness of the Yorkshire Moors."

Mrs Batrouni was at that time teaching Vocal Technique and song interpretation on a new degree course in the Performing Arts at the Middlesex Polytechnic in London. When one of her students, Brenda Cooper suggested that they should collaborate on a musical, the idea of making a musical based on the lives of the Bronte family finally gelled.

"It fitted in perfectly with that I had in mind to do. I wanted to write something that was very British, that at the same time was small and fine, like porcelain. I wanted to create something that was completely different from what was being produced in the West End - that is something that was not abstract, that did not need all the spectacular effects that musicals have come to rely on increasingly. I felt that those kind of productions were without any real character or substance and that they simply dazzled people instead of giving them something to think about."

With Mrs Cooper to write the musical score, Mrs Batrouni began the Herculean task of writing the script and the lyrics from a mass of material. It was a task so daunting, that many times it was left on the side, to be tackled again later. It was revived by Brenda Cooper two years ago when she managed to interest the students at Oxford University to stage the play. Even in its unfinished form, the musical generated a lot of interest. For Mrs Batrouni, who only saw the production on videotape, it was very useful experience. "From the perspective of my experience of staging musicals here in Amman, I was immediately able to see the

play's shortcomings - which basically was a lack of comedy."

The final re-write was accomplished relatively quickly. Several new characters were added, principally the Curates who not only act as narrators helping to glue the story together but also inject a great deal of subtle humour. During rehearsals, the play, as is often the case with new productions, has undergone many more changes. Several of these were instigated by the actors themselves who have greatly enjoyed the experience of being involved in the process of putting on a completely new production.

"Vanessa responded to the way we felt some of the characters would have reacted, and made alterations corresponding to," said David Thompson who

plays one of the Curates, among other parts. "What is so interesting about a play or musical is that it is a living thing. Unlike a film which a definitive piece, plays are never quite finished, they are always open to different interpretations. Ideally," he continued, "I would have liked a more intense, more concentrated rehearsal period, and to have known more about the Brontes before we started, as I feel sometimes we are still a bit too modern in our approach."

Kay Mukhar, who plays the part of Emily agreed but felt that the costumes, flown in especially from the Bristol Old Vic, England, would help them get more of the feel of the 19th century. "When we tried on the costumes for the first time we suddenly realised how restricting they were

and why women in those days needed help when getting dressed. In the costumes you are forced to take tiny steps and reduce your activity."

The set, designed by Nawal Abdullah-Kattan, also reflects the restricted way of life of 19th century England. Like the Vicarage itself, which looks quite imposing from the exterior, the set is a series of tiny rooms.

Another problem the actors faced was trying to understand the mentality of the Brontes who lived, like everyone in those times, under the constant threat of an early death of both themselves and their loved ones. As Mrs Batrouni notes in the programme, in the 1840s a staggering 40 per cent of the population died before they reached the age of six. The highest mortality rate

however occurred between the ages of 19 and 26, when most people were in their prime. The Bronte family suffered tremendously - their mother died young in her thirties, two of the daughters died in their childhood, Emily, Anne and Branwell (the only son) all died in their twenties. In the face of such a reality, one begins to understand why these people so often retreated into their own fantasy worlds.

The tragic side of the lives of the Brontes is conveyed via the music. As Gaynor Peridakis, who plays the part of Anne, said "The songs are very moving and no matter how many times I sing them they still bring a lump to my throat."

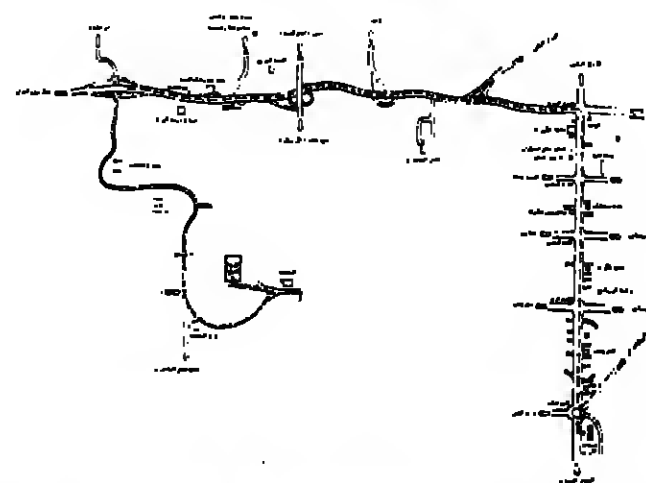
The script itself however, in true Batrouni's style, is fast moving and full of humor.

## Jordan Medical Aid for Palestinians

MAP Walk  
Friday 11/5/1990

### Date, time and venue

The walk will start at the Intercontinental Hotel at 8:30 a.m. on Friday 11th May 1990 and will follow the route outlined in the map below. Participants are requested to arrive not later than 8.00. It will end at Kherbat Abu Jaber.



### Stations

The Walk will be divided into substages (stations) 2 km. apart. Participants will collect a yellow card at the Intercontinental Hotel and have a new card at each station. The final (11th) station will be at Kherbat Abu Jaber.

### How much should one walk

One can walk as he/she wants, but the minimum valid distance is 2 km. i.e. one should get at least the first card.

### Food & drinks

Participants with yellow cards will be provided with food and drinks free of charge along the route at every station upon the presentation of the yellow card.

### Buses & Shuttles

These will be available during the walk to take the participants back to the Intercontinental Hotel or Kherbat Abu Jaber. An ambulance will be on stand by in case of emergency.

### Police supervision

The police have been notified and will be available to ensure the safety of the participants.

### Media Coverage

The event will be covered by T.V. Radio and the local newspapers.

### Collection of money

After completing the walk, the money pledged by all sponsors on each form, should be brought back to the organising committee not later than 25th of May 1990.

Souk Baladi Friday 11 / 5 / 1990

### For Walkers and non Walkers

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## Market forces make the running with USAID

By Pam Dougherty  
Special to The Star

ROADS AND water supply projects are making way for private business in United States Agency for International Development (USAID) policy as the world trend to market economics gains momentum.

The new policy was outlined by Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Africa and Near East Bureau of USAID John Blackton at a USAID sponsored Africa Near East Private Sector Workshop held in Amman this week. Blackton says the new policy has been developing for the past couple of years but is gaining new force.

He told The Star that USAID is becoming a private sector support agency with programmes to support the investment environment, exporters, banks and capital markets.

USAID programmes in the fifties, sixties and seventies were focused on government activity in infrastructure and agriculture. US policy to support the capitalist system came in the diffused form of "Exporting the American Way of Life" with family farms and clean water as two of its

most characteristic symbols.

In Jordan USAID played a major role in the development of the Jordan Valley with its small family farms and promotion of commercial agriculture. It was also a major financial and technical supporter of Jordan's water supply and sewage network building programme which gained major impetus following the 1981 cholera outbreak.

Now as the world changes USAID is ready to change too. In a recent address US Secretary of State James Baker described USAID as a major potential tool in helping to meet five major challenges in US foreign policy over the next decade.

Baker set the challenges as helping to consolidate the world trend to democracy, helping to build strong free-market economies support for peace-makers, working with the world community on countering transnational threats including environmental degradation and drug trafficking and finally strengthening international ties.

It is in the second of these areas, concerned with the building of free-market economies that USAID is already working in Jordan with a range of projects

in the field of what they term enterprise development. These include a management development project, the Private Enterprise and Technical Resources Assistance Project (PETRA), the Industrial Development Project, the Private Services Development Project and a Loan Guarantee Project for Small Enterprise Development.

This week's workshop was a chance for staff from USAID offices in Africa and Near East to see successful private sector projects first hand.

Bassam Khatib who works with USAID's Industrial Development Project led a field trip to the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) Sahab estate to see four successful factories all of which have built up successful export activity and which have received support from these various USAID projects.

Mr Khatib says his aim was to show the workshop participants how appropriate programmes had helped to boost private sector development generally and export activity in particular.

The field trip began with the Arab Centre for Pharmaceuticals, a medium size business established in joint venture with

Canadian Capsule Technology Industries which now employs 200 workers. Its capsules are exported to the Middle East, Singapore and the Far East and the company has also expanded into the manufacture of topical medicines and has plans to add a new capsule line. The company has benefited from its membership in the Jordan Trade Association (JTA) and from consultancy services provided by Management and Marketing Improvement Services (MMIS) both of which are USAID-supported.

A second company, Arab Electrical Industries which has built up a good business producing electrical accessories, 97 per cent of them for export to 20 countries, is also a member of the JTA.

Different support was given to the Sha'lan-Khadra Company which was established in 1988 to produce haemodialysis solutions. The company was able to call on the services of the International Executive Services Corps (IESC) which, provided two experts, the first when the company's plant was being established and the second during the planning of an expansion programme.

The final visit at Sahab was Global Carpets a \$10 million US-Jordanian joint venture which employs 170 workers making wall-to-wall carpets. The company now provides around 50 per cent of Jordan's demand and has built up a substantial export market to the Gulf. Global Carpets has received help from the Private Services Development project for studies of its operating procedures.

Overall Mr Khatib believes the USAID private sector programmes in Jordan are working well and he sees many more opportunities for Jordanian entrepreneurs to benefit from them.

According to Blackton, Jordan is almost an ideal country for the new style of American aid as he listed them, free electricity, free market system, contribution to the peace process, its role in environmental protection in the region and its potential to co-operate in the fight against drug trafficking and international terrorism. He said: "Now we have a good case to make in Washington."



# The story behind the Jobeiha Sculpture

By Hind-Lara Mungo  
Special to The Star



Welding a form of abstract art

STANDING MAJESTICALLY between the Jordan University Mosque and the neighbouring traffic lights in Jobeiha, is a 16-ton copper and iron sculpture. This 12-metre high monument, created by sculptor Koram Nimri, embodies seven overlapping curvilinear metal sheets. Each three sheets are twisted together and culminate in the perpendicular protrusion of the seventh tip. The sheets themselves were hammered in such a way so as to give a rough texture to the exterior surfaces and to give the manuscripts an archaic look. All hammering and melting processes have been carried out by hand.

This piece of art stands on a single axis, but what attracts the eye is the goldish brass Kufic lettering on the foremost reddish copper surface on which the first Qur'anic verse was inscribed. For with the theme of encouraging the pursuit of knowledge and reading, this verse represents the same idea of its neighbour, the University of Jordan. The number of the manuscripts is significant for the artist since it symbolises the seven days of the week, the seven rounds around the Ka'ba during the Islamic pilgrimage, the seven heavens and so forth.

But behind this sculpture long and labourious hours of work took place as well as some unbelievable tales. Work on this monument commenced in the form of research for an appropriate subject which would be compre-

hended by all. Says Nimri, "for the past 20 years I have always faced a problem between my figurative, abstract work and religion. Time after time, I was approached by various members of society and accused of blasphemy." Consequently, he came up with an oriental subject in harmony with religion. For foreigners who cannot read the Arabic inscription, the work can be studied as a modern abstract form. The artist has tried to break away from the conventional pedestal work and to give an overall anti-gravitational, flying impression. After multitudes of sketches, which were presented to the Amman Modification Committee for the beautification of Jordan, of which Nimri is a member, the artist was allowed to execute his imaginative work with an allotted budget of JD 20,000. Nimri then trained a team of 10 craftsmen in the techniques of melting, heating and hammering the metal. And so, with all the raw materials supplied locally work began, and took the team eight months and 30,000 man hours to complete. The artist asserts that the methods employed in creating this work are inventive and have not been used before; copper was cast over heated iron

(brazing) producing a compound stronger than its two original components. However, structural problems arose. For one thing, Nimri found that he needed help in creating a double curvature in each surface and thus relied on the help of a structural steel en-



The sculpture on location near Jobeiha

gineer, Dr Usama Madi.

However work on the actual sculpture did not take place on its present site. Rather, a location was found near Marka. Nimri put in 15 hours of work per day, sometimes staying as late as 3:00 a.m. The neighbours

complained and he was imprisoned for disturbing the peace. The authorities only allowed the team to work until 8:00 p.m. Another incident that took place during the construction of this monument was the explosion of the oxygen tanks which were used in heating the metal. Six labourers were taken to hospital and some of them were badly injured. "We looked as if we had just come out of the coal mines. But the ironic part was that when we reached the hospital, the people in charge there would not admit us thinking that we were beggars," says Nimri. "Problems were coming out of nowhere. Even the landowner of the site wanted to evict the crew," he says.

Finally, the work was ready to be taken to Jobeiha. The temporary site was demolished in order to extract the sculpture with a crane. However, three men were nearly cut to shreds when one of the crane's cords broke down.

If the near physical loss of his colleagues was not stressing enough for the artist, he also suffered from a material loss of JD 16,000. Nimri sadly says that "Until this present day I go from one place to another asking to be compensated and I am treated as though I were a beggar. One member of the evaluation board from the Amman Modification Committee told me that if it were left up to him he would not pay 500 fils for the sculpture."

## The church of the martyr twins at Jerash

By Duhouk Abu Hamdan  
Special to The Star

VISITORS TO Jerash who witness the effort to go beyond the illuminated Cardo and the warring columns of the Artemision are rewarded by the magnificent remains of the church of the three churches dedicated to SS Cosmas and Damian, St John the Baptist and St George. The northern church is that of SS Cosmas and Damian, in it is the finest preserved mosaic in Jerash. It is a masterpiece of geometric designs, with alternating horizontal and vertical panels containing representations of plants, domestic and wild life and animals, and the dome of the church. The brilliant tesserae are still apparent despite their age and exposure to the elements.

The patron saints of this beautiful church were twin Arab brothers. Their mother, Theodora, was a virtuous woman and a devout believer in God. As the boys grew up, they became strong in wisdom, spirit and knowledge of the arts and sciences. One of them, Cosmas, was a physician and the other, Damian, a pharmacist. They inherited considerable wealth and offered their services in the treatment of body and soul without charge, to the glory of God. Their martyrdom took place during the phase of persecution of the Christians under the Emperor Diocletian, at the beginning of the fourth century AD.

With the adoption of Christianity as the official religion of the Roman Empire under Emperor Constantine I, the twins were recognised as saints and acknowledged as patrons of medicine and pharmacy. Since their relics were reportedly moved to Rome, and many monuments were dedicated to their memory. The church dedicated to SS Cosmas and Damian at Jerash was built around AD 530-535 during the early Justinian era. It is one of several magnificent religious monuments built by the pious emperor Justinian I and his queen Theodora, and is considered the earliest surviving sanctuary commemorating the saints besides their memorial at Rome.

## Swimming pools...

### Summer at the Amra Hotel

SUMMER IS coming and the best place to enjoy it is in the pool of Amra Forum Hotel. In fact there are two pools, the first in a sizeable paddling pool and ideal to teach your children to swim and the other is a full sized pool which the staff of the Amra Hotel maintain in perfect order.

There are excellent changing facilities and if you fancy something to eat, there is a good selection available from Sandwiches to steaks to cups of tea. So it is great place to spend the day.

If swimming is not enough to tone up those muscles; the tennis court will surely help you to get rid of those stubborn bits of flab and get the body back in shape.

So do not wait... and for membership information.. please call the Amra Forum Hotel.. Sales Office.. Telephone 815071 ext: 1519.

### YWCA's spring tennis tournament

The YWCA Spring tennis tournament was launched on Wednesday at the society's courts. It will continue until Friday 18 May. The events are mixed doubles, men's doubles and ladies doubles. Most games will take place in the afternoons. Everyone is welcome.

### Yassin Habboul Beauty Saloon

Requires five ladies hairdressers, preferably with 10 years experience and of Jordanian nationality. Applicants should report personally to: Yassin Habboul Beauty Saloon, Amman Marriott Hotel - Amman.

## Men's Swimsuits

### What do women think of them

For the past quarter-century, Sports Illustrated magazine has made it a point to keep its readership scrupulously well-informed on the subject of bathing suits. Last year's special 25th-anniversary swimsuit issue ran to 284 pages and sold more than 6 million copies.

But — talk about blatant inequity — nobody ever tells women anything about men's bathing suits.

Judging from the suits showcased in Sports Illustrated, men prefer women's bathing suits to be on the skimpy side.

Recent comments on men's swimsuits ranged from "lacky," "sleazy," "French," "aggressive," "invasive" and "presumptuous."

Context makes a difference. A couple of women said, in a survey done in the United States, that racing suits were fine for swimming laps in pools but not for strolling on beaches. One said they looked OK on the Riviera or in Rio, but not elsewhere.

Still another woman found them "unobjectionable on men who 'have great bodies... but not



do women want men to wear on the beach? Most respondents seemed to prefer what one called "the Brooks Brothers look," and what another described as "the undisturbed cotton boxer-short type."

But there was no consensus on how these boxer-types should fit. One said "the baggier the better," and another said "baggy to medium-baggy," but some said they shouldn't be baggy, and one or two said they shouldn't be too long. There were several votes for the trim swim trunks lifeguards wear. One young woman voted for 1950s madras plaids and another turned thumbs down on anything with zebra or tiger stripes.

A few liked jeans, the long, loose, tropical-printed shirts worn by surfers and surfer wannabes, but others said they look "kind of dumb" or "cumbersome" or "stupid." One woman said she liked "the Hawaiian ones because they're funny, and there's something so ludicrous about being seen in a bathing suit you should probably play it for laughs."

So what — to paraphrase Freud

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**Granada Hotel & Amigo Nabil Restaurant**  
Welcome you to a pleasant stay and sumptuous European & Oriental meals.  
Located in a quiet yet central area.  
1st circle, Jebel Amman, Tel: 638031 & 622617

**La Terrasse Restaurant**  
Oriental & European meals. Fresh fish daily  
For reservations, Tel: 662831, 601675. Shmeisani, Amman.

**RESTAURANT CHINA**  
The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan  
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Tables always available.  
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.  
6:30-Midnight  
Tel: 639988

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Open For LUNCH & DINNER

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Real Italian Cooking. Fresh Home-made pasta. Excellent quality meat, large selection of wines.  
Mecca Street, Tel: 621705



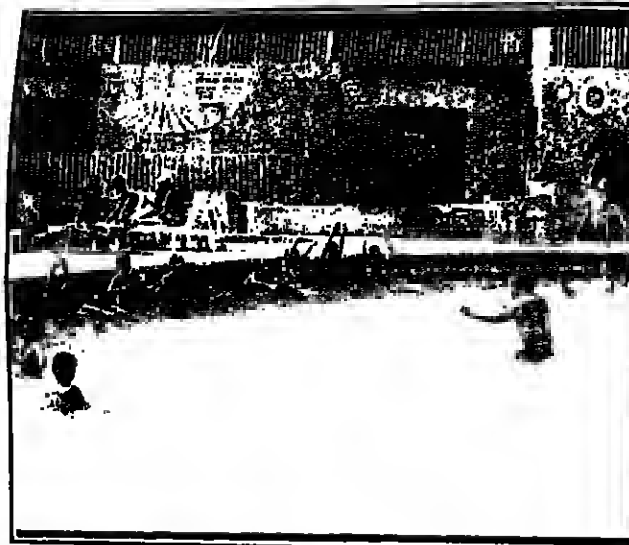
## Philadelphia International The champions at your service

● THE SWIMMING pool at the Philadelphia Hotel is associated with champions, since it is supervised by Mr Adel Al-Wazani, a former Jordanian swimming champion and the father of several champions.

In addition to that Mr Al-Wazani, who has been working for Philadelphia Hotel for 25 years, has also trained many excellent Jordanian swimmers.

The Philadelphia pool is the oldest in Amman because the Philadelphia Hotel is the oldest in Jordan.

As it has always done, the pools is attracting many foreign diplomats as well as Jordanian families, who enjoy their large drinks and B.B.Q snacks at Al-Azraq pool terrace, or join the real European atmosphere at the newly-decorated coffee-shop at Al-Liwan.



# SEASON IN THE SUN!

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## Lots of fun at Crown Hotel's Piscine Club

● Under the Patronage of Mr Hussam Abu Ghazal, Executive Officer of Royal Jordanian, Club Piscine Crown Hotel will be celebrating its start of season opening party Friday 11 May at 11:30 am. The celebration will be attended by members of the diplomatic corps in Amman, businessmen, friends and members of the Club piscine.

All the necessary arrangements have been made for the new season, and membership is open now for new members at very reasonable prices.

The Crown Hotel's Club Piscine invites all citizens to join it in its celebration and enjoy the whole day enjoying its many luxurious facilities.

The swimming pool, the biggest in Jordan, will be open daily. Other facilities include tennis and squash courts, basketball play ground, children's playground, sauna, massage parlour, fitness and exercise halls, rest area, light snacks, wedding and celebration halls. Membership fees for the swimming pool are: adults JD 35, children JD 25.

Children under five years of age will receive free membership.

If you wish to visit Club Piscine, please come along to spend the day free of charge for a week, and enjoy swimming from Saturday, 12 May, lots of fun and entertainment at the Crown Hotel Club Piscine.

## Good times at the InterCont.

● Jordan-InterContinental Hotel has announced the opening of its Pool Club for this season. Noting that membership applications can be obtained from the hotel's executive office, the hotel has issued a number of regulations guaranteeing the safety as well as the comfort of its members. Membership fees and JD 80 per person over 18 years of age (one month membership), JD 180 (three months membership), and JD 120 for parents and children under 14 years of age (one month membership) and JD 350 (whole season membership). An extra fee of JD 20 (one month membership) and JD 50 (whole season membership) for each additional child.

And as part of its constant promotion campaign to introduce Jordanian tourists, the hotel has decided to name its swimming pool after the archaeological sites of the Kingdom. Eight wings now bear the names of Ajlun, Ajlun, Ajlun, Ajlun, Ajlun, Ajlun, Ajlun, and Ajlun.

According to Khaled and Soha, who run the family business out of Saudi Arabia, both agree that the summer will be extremely busy in terms of demand on land and property within the Greater Amman area by Jordanian expatriates and Gulf nationals. "The demand will be much more than last year," says Khaled, a bespectacled young man who studied in the United States and graduated in 1986.

The couple also agree that the current dinaar devaluation of 1988, is selling today for about JD 50,000 or \$73,000 (after devaluation), which makes a saving of about \$17,000. In addition to this, Kuwaitis, Saudis and other Gulf nationals are using the opportunity to buy

# ECONOMY

By a Star Staff Writer

## The real estate market The bonanza isn't over yet



Mr Abo. Joudom

AMMAN - Do you know of anyone who is offering a luxury villa in the Abdoun area, or a "semi-palace" with a total area of 1500 square metres for sale? Or you might suggest a summer palace on Wadi Seer hills with a swimming pool and servants quarters. If you do, then call your nearest real estate agent because there are people who will pay JD 550,000 for a villa in Abdoun and JD 1.5 million for a summer palace overlooking the Jordan Valley. In fact, West Amman suburbs will be up for sale this summer as real estate agents expect an exploding market - a repetition of last year's bonanza.

While the economy slumbers with few positive indications of a real upturn, many people are getting into the property speculation business with - surprisingly - few casualties.

The main reason for the expected upsurge in the real estate market is the devaluation of the Jordan dinar against Gulf currencies like the Kuwaiti dinar, the Saudi riyal and the UAE dirham. The buyers are mostly Jordanian expatriates, but there is also an influx of Gulf investors who are discovering Jordan's good summer weather, political stability and proximity to their countries in addition to bargain prices property deals.

Dr Daoud Abo Joudom, owner and manager of Abo Joudom Real Estate Office, says that since the beginning of this year, property prices have been on the rise while most of the buyers were resident Jordanians.

"Still expatriates will be surprised that (property) prices for

this year will be high due to more demand than supply (for flats and villas) and the increase in the cost of building material," Mr Abo Joudom says.

He indicated that big real estate developers are now concentrating on purchasing large plots of land (a total average of 10 dunums) to meet the increase in demand. "One apartment building project of say 56 flats could yield JD 1 million," says Mr Abo Joudom.

However, the property market boom is limited to the Greater Amman area, especially the north-west suburbs. By today's prices a deluxe apartment sells for between JD 40,000 to JD 50,000. Mr Joudom does not expect the current prices to rise "so long as the value of the dinar remains stable."

One of the areas where demand is high is the Abdoun suburb where a zoning regulation prohibits the construction of high-rise buildings. "A super-deluxe villa will cost an average of JD 450,000 and some sellers are demanding payment in hard currency," says Mr Abo Joudom.

He estimates the real estate market value to be "more than JD 150 million at last year's activity" mainly because of the strength of the Kuwaiti dinar. Kuwaiti nationals have started, since last year, buying land in agricultural areas such as Al Hummar, Al Hashimiyah and Deir Ghobar near Wadi Seer.

"These areas are in great demand because they can be developed as summer resorts for their owners," says Mr Abo Joudom whose office was established in 1949 by his father Mr George Abo Joudom. He adds that Gulf nationals would like to buy more than the 10 dunums limit imposed by the government on non-Jordanians.

The real estate market thrives during economic recessions as people prefer to spend their cash money on property, according to Mr Abo Joudom. Land prices have risen in the past two years to between 10 to 30 per cent "depending on the location."

Currently one dunum of land is sold for JD 65,000 in Abdoun and for JD 50,000 to JD 60,000 in Shmeisani, Um Uthaina and Suweifeh. Those who buy land are mostly Jordanians who hope

to make a sizable profit when they sell the land again in the peak summer months.

But despite the upsurge in property and building markets Mr Abo Joudom says that real estate prices in Jordan are cheaper than neighbouring countries like Syria. He points to the fact that 32 per cent of land within the Greater Amman area is still vacant and undeveloped. He also says that because of the high demand on buying apartments there is a great shortage in rented property. "I see a reverse in this phenomenon and I think many (apartment building) owners will venture into the renting market soon," says Mr Abo Joudom. He also says that the age of large housing projects like Abu Nseir and Al Rawdah has ended disastrously.

For the time being there are no indications that the real estate market will suffer a reverse in its current growth. In addition to apartment buildings and luxury villas deals, many Jordanian expatriates are investing in commercial buildings in business areas of Amman. With the recession still crippling the national economy some real estate agents fear that investments in commercial buildings might go bust as many small and medium size businesses are shutting down. Still, Mr Abo Joudom is certain that stability and moderate prices will work in favour of the real estate market for more years to come.

## A family affair: Coping with the land boom

By a Star Staff Writer



The Saudi couple: reaping the benefits of a blooming market

AMMAN - For Khaled Saudi and his wife Soha Hammour, the real estate business does not end when a deal is struck. The couple are working for a responsible role in promoting Jordan as an investment haven for Arab Gulf nationals and Jordan expatriates. To achieve this goal, they plan to open "a one-man office" for most Gulf capitals whose job will be to provide possible investors with studies on real estate opportunities in the country.

Khaled and Soha, who run the family business out of Saudi Arabia, both agree that the summer will be extremely busy in terms of demand on land and property within the Greater Amman area by Jordanian expatriates and Gulf nationals. "The demand will be much more than last year," says Khaled, a bespectacled young man who studied in the United States and graduated in 1986.

The couple also agree that the current dinaar devaluation of 1988, is selling today for about JD 50,000 or \$73,000 (after devaluation), which makes a saving of about \$17,000. In addition to this, Kuwaitis, Saudis and other Gulf nationals are using the opportunity to buy

allow sons of expatriates to pay a sum of \$10,000 instead of doing their two-year army service. "has encouraged thousands of Jordanians living abroad to buy an apartment or a piece of land in West Amman."

According to Khaled, a 180-square-metre apartment that used to sell for JD 30,000 or around \$90,000 before the devaluation of the dinar in the second half of 1988, is selling today for about JD 50,000 or \$73,000 (after devaluation), which makes a saving of about \$17,000.

In addition to this, Kuwaitis, Saudis and other Gulf nationals are using the opportunity to buy

chased before the price hikes. "An average Jordanian family cannot save enough to buy an apartment due to the devaluation of the dinar," says Soha who worked for seven years for an American medical firm in the Gulf before working for Khaled's newly-established office some three years ago.

While Soha runs the rental department, Khaled manages sales which keeps him busy enough as the market is currently geared into selling property and land. "One can't find a decent apartment to rent in Amman for less than JD 1,500 (annually)," Soha says. Even so, many landlords prefer to lease their property to foreigners, at exorbitant prices, than to resident Jordanians. The

Continued on page 11

## PROFESSIONAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

An international professional firm is currently recruiting fresh university graduates in business administration, accounting and related fields for work in the Middle East. Fluency in English is a prerequisite. C.V.s should be mailed to: Mrs. H. Aghbal, MEBA Ltd., P.O. Box 9446, Amman, Jordan. All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

## Briefs

By Ahmad Shaker

● The government has decided to cancel the technical assistance agreement between Jordan and the Islamic Bank for Development which was to be used in establishing a pilot plant for assembling and manufacturing personal computers. The value of the agreement, which was attached to the Royal Scientific Society, is estimated at \$ 1 million.

● The cabinet has approved minutes of talks between Jordan and the West German government on providing consultancy services in the Ministry of Planning.

● The cabinet has approved the second amendment on a grant agreement submitted by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) concerning a project to develop agricultural marketing. The Minister of Planning was authorised to sign the agreement on behalf of the government.

● Contacts are underway among capitals of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) aiming at presenting a project for energy conservation. Total oil consumption for the four ACC countries is estimated at 1 million barrels daily at an annual cost of \$ 6 billion with an increase of \$ .5 billion annually. A study suggested that at least \$ 250 million annually can be saved through the introduction of a number of energy saving methods.

The study mentioned using climate-related construction techniques, insulation, substitute energy resources and joint industrial and power sharing projects.

● The Ministry of Transport has requested from the Egyptian authorities that Jordanian trucks at Nuweibe be given the same treatment awarded by Jordan to Egyptian trucks and trailers.

## RENT Saudi Real Estate

Furnished & unfurnished apartments & villas for rent in West Amman area.

CALL SOHA  
Rental Dept. 687621/22



## Deposit Rates

Euro-deposit rates:					
	US	DEM	STG	Yen	SFR
1 mo.	8.3/16	7.3/4	15.00	7.00	9.1/16
2 mo.	8.5/16	7.15/8	15.1/8	7.12	9.1/16
3 mo.	8.3/8	8.1/16	15.3/16	7.18	9.1/16
6 mo.	8.3/4	8.3/8	15.5/16	7.37	9.00
1 year	8.7/8	8.3/4	15.9/16	7.43	9.00

Interbank rates (Jordan):  
Savings accounts 7%. Call accounts 8%, 1 week 8.0%,  
1 month 8.25%, 2 months 8.50%, 3 months 8.75%, 1 year  
9.0%. Lending rate (AAA) 12.5%.

Dollar:

	DMK	SFR	STG	YEN	CAN	FFR
1.50	1.6550/60	1.4325/35	1.6708/15	157.72/77	1.1630/35	5.5610/40

Source: Amman Bank for Investment, Tel: 642701

## Rule of thumb

## Contractors Pre-Qualification (3)

Continued from previous issue

ACCORDING TO Article four of the Instructions on Pre-Qualification of Contractors and Consultants, the Central Tenders Committee (CTC) is authorised to request technical and financial offers for the tenders. The CTC maintains the right to set the procedural method for opening and evaluating bids. The committee may open technical bids first or open both technical and financial bids at the same time.

The Qualification Committee submits its decision to the concerned minister seeking his approval prior to the process of inviting bidders to submit their financial offers. Following the minister's approval of the qualifications results, and upon their announcement, those who are qualified will be called to submit tender documents for bidding. Upon the withdrawal of some bidders, where the remaining contractors are less than four, alternative bidders will be selected through the same method stipulated in these instructions.

To qualify contractors and consultants to work outside the Kingdom a committee of six is formed to set the criteria for such qualification. Those contractors and consultants who qualify are granted annual certificates issued by the Minister of Public Works and Housing.

## Matchmaking

- Wan-An Precise Machinery Works Co. Ltd., P. O. Box 24-157, Taipei, Taiwan, R.O.C.  
Tel: 29355 ORTHOTEC  
Fax: 886-2-7512924

Product: ORTHOTEC's new CN250DL high speed label pointing machine. Features: Numeric control system for driving, 9000 RPH high speed, precise computer sprocket puncher, slope printing design to achieve solid colour and twistable die-cut.

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This free-of-charge service is available to local and foreign businessmen. To publish your commercial interests in this corner please fill-out this box (do not photocopy) and send with details to: Economy Editor, On-Line, The Star, P.O. Box 9313, Amman-Jordan.

## Made-in-Jordan

## JORDAN KUWAIT

Company for Agriculture and Fertil Products (JKC) introduced a new 25 liter container of liquid fertilizer early this year to serve a wide range of customers with specific needs such as small farmers who have a small demand for fertilizer. The company will also introduce a half liter container specially designed for indoor plants, and a five-liter container for house gardens in mid 1990. JKC will also start producing liquid trace elements in single and

mixed forms. Steps are advancing towards the scheduling of a "U.S. Import Agents' Visit" to Jordan in the fall, to be sponsored jointly by the Jordan Trade Association and the Private Services Development Project. The aim is to support government goals to increase exports, generate foreign exchange, improve the country's balance of payments, and increase employment. JTA members as well as non-member industries will be considered for participation.

## Gold &amp; Silver

	Gold	JD
1kg	8,625,000	
21 ct	7,500	
18 ct	6,500	
Eng. pound		62,000
8g		
Rasbadi:		
7g	54,500	
24ct (swiss)	9,750	
Silver		
1 kg	160,000	

## Money Matters

Average exchange rates on in JLD		
Sunday 8/4/1990		
	Buy	Sell
US\$	668.0	672.0
£	1110.5	1117.2
DM	401.3	403.7
SFR	463.1	465.9
FRF	119.4	120.1
YEN	422.3	424.8
(100)		
DFL	456.7	358.8
SKR	109.6	110.3
LIT	54.7	55.0
(100)		
BLF	192.8	194.0
(10)		

## Consumer Watch

## Washing Vegetables

EATING UNWASHED vegetables results in serious long-term health effects. Rinsing or washing edible vegetables should rank first on the list of consumer preventive health care. Three out of eight patients in Jordan with stomach and digestion problems had a record of eating unwashed vegetables. Seven out of ten doctors contend that eating unwashed vegetables is responsible for at least three types of illness with multiplication effects.

Doctors argue that edible vegetables are vulnerable to soil mutations and chemical additives. Therefore, rinsing vegetables prior to eating reduces the probability of related illness.

Five out of seven laboratory analyses in Jordan attribute 15 per cent of the chronic stomach illnesses to eating unwashed vegetables. Two out of six doctors agree that chemical pesticides fail to combat any disease resulting from eating unwashed vegetables.

There is no need to get education for vegetable rinsing know-how. It is a matter of awareness and simple preventive health care.

## Business Notes

## The Jordanian computer industry: There are opportunities

THE COMPUTER industry in Jordan is in its formative stages. While it is not as developed as in countries like Singapore, in recent years the industry has grown significantly. It represents an interesting opportunity for a joint venture with the right partner from among qualified local companies.

Since the early 80's well-trained data processing professionals (many of whom have been educated abroad) have established software development, assembly, and distribution firms to serve Jordan and, more important, other countries in the region. As in the case of many other products or industries, the advantage of establishing a joint venture in Jordan is not so much to sell in the local market, which is relatively small, but to use the country's low labour costs as a base to penetrate neighbouring markets.

Jordan's computer professionals and firms are armed with a wide range of skills and experience in the area of computer applications and software development, in addition to equipment assembly and manufacturing. In any project in which they are involved, Jordanians bring not only these skills and experiences but also full Arabic language capabilities, the ability to quickly absorb products at low cost, and knowledge of the countries in which they have worked - important considerations for successfully competing in the region. According to Rana Abu Odeh of the Jordan Technology Group (JTG) "We're already active in the Middle East and elsewhere and looking forward to some important business as well as technical breakthroughs in the 90's particularly outside the region."

## Industrial Estates

## Canary Confectionery Factory

Location: Amman Industrial Estate/Sahab  
Invested Capital: JD (400,000) thousand  
No. of Workers: (25) workers  
Production starting date: 1980  
Type of Production  
- Wafer with cream filling, in different weights, sizes, and flavours.  
Annual production rate comes to (500) tons, covering the local market and exporting about (10%) to Arab Gulf countries and Iraq.

The company is also hoping to export to other Arab Countries.

Canary Confectionery Factory  
Tel: 722004  
Amman Industrial Estate/Sahab  
P.O. Box: 38444  
Amman

## Universal Electroplating and Trading Co.

Location: Amman Industrial Estate/Sahab  
Invested Capital: JD (1.0) million  
No. of Workers: (40) workers  
Production starting date: Last quarter of 1985  
Type of Production  
The company electroplates about 10 thousand tons of Aluminium, Iron and other metals according to the latest scientific techniques of electroplating. The company nowadays covers the local market and is working on exporting its products to the Arab Gulf countries and Europe.

Universal Electroplating and Trading Co.  
Tel: 722901  
P.O. Box: (26)  
Amman Industrial Estate/Sahab

## Shows &amp; Exhibitions

## SIAL

INTERNATIONAL FOOD Product Exposition, October 22-26, 1990. Parc d'Expositions Paris-Nord Villepinte, Paris, France. Contact: Anne Bordenave and Monique Bordenave, SIAL-39, rue de la Bienfaisance-75008 Paris. Tel: (1) 42894687. Tlx: 650614. Fax: (1) 42894694.  
SIAL is trying to re-group firms from all countries into product sectors: SIAL, Boissons and the International Food of Fruits and Vegetables.

## Arab Maghreb-Europe gas pipeline

AN AGREEMENT has been reached to establish a Moroccan-Algerian company to study the feasibility of extending a gas pipeline between the Arab Maghreb countries and Europe. The pipeline is expected to enhance Algeria's gas export potential in European markets and enable Morocco to diversify its energy sources as well as benefit from the duties which will be imposed as a good source of revenues. The project is considered a step further in joint investment and economic co-operation among the five Maghreb Union (MU) members, especially for Moroccan-Algerian bilateral co-operation.

## Environment programme for Mediterranean enters operational phase

Special to The Star

THE ENVIRONMENTAL programme for the Mediterranean (EPM), a joint initiative of the World Bank and the European Investment Bank (EIB), is now operational. In a report, "The Environmental Programme for the Mediterranean: Preserving a Shared Heritage and Managing a Common Resource", the two institutions noted the serious environmental degradation in many parts of the Mediterranean region.

The main objectives of the EPM consist of curbing the degradation of coastal areas, managing water resources efficiently, preventing and controlling marine pollution caused by oil and chemicals, and improving facilities for processing, recycling and disposing of solid and hazardous waste.

## Mashreq Banque branch in Qatar to be liquidated

AL SHARQ DAILY of Qatar reported that Al Mashreq Banque branch in Qatar is being liquidated by the Qatar Monetary Agency. The bank's assets were released for public auction between Monday 23 April 1990 and 7 May 1990. The bank will be shut down completely and its financial affairs will be handled by the Qatar National Bank. According to Majed Mohammed Majed, the liquidation officer of Al Mashreq in Qatar, the auction proceeded on highest bid-for-leader basis. This includes all equipment and fixtures at the bank's branch.

## A family business :Coping with the land boom

Continued from page 9

furnished apartments market is booming as a one-bedroom basement flat in Shmeisani is leased for a monthly rent of between JD 150 to JD 200. Soha calls on the government to introduce regulations to protect both foreigners and Jordanians from such practices and suggests that the government focus its efforts on building housing complexes for limited income employees, which they can rent or buy at realistic prices with easy payment terms.

Despite a chronic shortage in the supply of apartments for rent, Soha says that there are thousands of vacant apartments in Amman.

"Landlords are content to lease their furnished apartments for the five summer months to foreigners or expatriates and leave them empty the rest of the year."

The Saudi Real Estate office is a relative newcomer to the market but has emerged as one of the strongest and most influential in recent months. Applying what he calls "American mentality" in marketing principles, Khaled, who entered the business to run his family real estate, and Soha say they spend about 70 per cent of the agency's turnover on advertising mainly in the Gulf.

Recently they have offered property where payment was demanded to hard currency "as an effort to boost local economy." One of the biggest deals they have brokered is the sale of a

countryside mansion in Zai area which amounted to the equivalent of JD 400,000 in foreign currency. They claim that their office has a market share of 20 per cent and they are looking at increasing this share by helping Jordanian and foreign investors find the right investments in the Kingdom.

While they are optimistic about the expansion of the real estate business this summer, the couple warn of bad property investments which may turn sour and reverse the current trend. "The Gardens Street is one example where lots of money is spent into over supplying services that already exist," says Khaled.

He also points to the fact that almost all real estate investments are poured into the Amman area. In an effort to divert investments from Amman into other areas in Jordan, the couple have suggested to one of their clients, University for Applied Sciences, that they locate the campus in Aqaba and not in Amman. "This will breathe life into Aqaba and create another real estate and economic boom there," says Soha. But the couple admit that expatriates prefer Amman to any other place in Jordan.

When it comes to their own prediction on the life cycle of the current boom the couple are not totally in agreement. Khaled believes it will stay for another 18 months before being checked. Soha, on the other hand, has less faith. "It will last for less than a year," she says.

## Tenders in Saudi Arabia

- Municipal and Rural Affairs Directorate: in Riyadh District, No. 21, asphaltting and paving of roads and lighting in Khurj streets, SR 5,000, 19/5/1990; No. 22, asphaltting of roads and lighting in Haurat Bani Tameem, SR 1,000, 19/5/1990; No. 20, asphaltting of roads and lighting in Mirat and affiliated villages, SR 250, 19/5/1990.

- In Eastern Province, Dammam, 4/435/41/19, asphaltting, paving and lighting in Ras Taonura SR 1,000, 19/5/1990; maintenance of streets in Abqaiq and affiliated villages, SR 500, 19/5/1990.

- Water and Sanitary Dispensal Department: in Western Province, construction of hangars and iron sheds at the garage and warehouses of the department's branch in Mathniah, Tulf, SR 1,000, 10/6/1990; construction of hangar at the water

supply station in Wadi Malkao, SR 500, 18/6/1990.

- Klog Faisal Military City in Southern Province, Operation and Maintenance Directorate, supply and delivery of iron and other materials, SR 1,000, 14/5/1990; supply and delivery of electrical materials and fittings, SR 1000, 15/5/1990.

- Defense and Aviation Ministry, Civil Aviation Presidency, International Airport Projects, No. E-9-242-11F-0, construction of the administration building at King Fahd International Airport, deadline extended until 17/6/1990.

- Educational Directorate: in Washm, 3/17, construction of boundary around the sports grounds in Shuqra, SR 200, 19/5/1990; in Onalaz District, 9/1410, maintenance and repair of the passengers and books elevators at the cultural library in Onalaz, SR 100, 15/

5/1990; Qunfudhoh, 4/1410, repair of Ajlao, Al-Haleefah and Faily schools in Hurb Al-Aimiyah Simplified School in Hail, SR 250, 15/5/1990.

- Public Works and Housing Ministry, Housing Undersecretariat, 107/10, operation, maintenance, cleaning and guarding of the public housing scheme in Alkhobar, SR 2,000, 27/5/1990.

- Grain Silos and Flour Mills Corp., No. 15-19 (5 tenders), construction of housing and general utilities for workers, as well as construction of concrete roads and yards, No. 15, SR 1,000, 15/5/1990; No. 16, SR 1,000, 13/5/1990; No. 17, SR 1,000, 15/5/1990; No. 18, SR 500, 16/5/1990; No. 19, SR 1,000, 13/5/1990.

- Municipality of Buraidah, maintenance of streets, SR 1,500, 13/5/1990.

## Dammam Energy Exhibition

The Dhamran Expo Center, Dammam, Saudi Arabia, will host, November 4-8, 1990, the Gulf Oil, Petrochemical and Energy Technology Exhibition, expected to be the largest energy industry event in the Middle East. The Exhibition, which will open under the patronage of Mr. Hisham Nazer, Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Minerals, will set the pace for the resurgence in the 1990's of the oil and gas industry in the region. Contact: Dhamran International Exhibitions, P.O. Box 7519, Dammam 31472, Saudi Arabia (Jurgen Krupka, Sales and Marketing Manager)

## Jeddah 1990 Exhibitions

THE JEDDAH Expo Center programme of exhibitions in 1990 is as follows:

- CONDEC 90: 5th International Construction, Building Maintenance, Decoration and Interior Exhibition, October 21-25, 1990.

- REVAC 90: 5th International Refrigeration, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Heating Exhibition, October 21-25, 1990.

- CHILD WORLD 90: International Toys, Games, Clothing and Accessories, Sports, Leisure Educational Aids, Furniture and Furnishings Exhibition, November 11-15, 1990.

- FASHION WORLD 90: International Fashion, Clothing, Fabrics, Accessories and Cosmetics Exhibition, November 11-15, 1990.

- Jeddah Motor Show 90: 12th International Motor Vehicles, Accessories and Garage Maintenance Exhibition, December 9-14, 1990.

Contact: Al Hairthy Company for Exhibitions Ltd. P.O. Box 40740, Jeddah 21511, Saudi Arabia. Tlx. 602784, Fax 640-4548, Tel. 640-4727.

## Contracts and contacts

- Arab Potash Co., 17/90, auxiliary steam boiler, deadline extended until 31/5/1990.

- Irbid District Electricity Co., 2/90, drilling, bid opening extended until 14/5/1990.

- General Supplies Dept., 52/90, fodders, JD 4, 12/5/1990; 113/90, X-ray films and chest lab materials, JD 3, 13/5/1990; 108/90, wooden posts extensions and wire tightening supplies, JD 5, 9/6/1990; 115/90, spare parts for Maon buses (16-240 HOC & 2566 MHO), JD 25, 22/5/1990; 114/90, pads, bandages, adhesive pads and medical disposables, JD 25, 13/5/1990; 118/90, raw materials and printing supplies, JD 15, 15/5/1990.

- Water Authority, L 6/90, rubber cables and electrode cables, JD 50, 12/5/1990.

- Jordan Cement Factories Co., 10/90, safety shoes, JD 10, 30/5/1990.

- University of Science and Technology, 17/90, equipment for the College of Agriculture, JD 20, 3/6/1990; 18/90, equipment for the Mechanical Engineering Division, JD 15, 3/6/1990.

- Government Tenders Dept., Central 7/90, consulting services for design and supervision of Petra Forum Hotel, JD 25, 13/5/1990.

- National Medical Institution, anaesthetic supplies, JD 35, 12/6/1990.

- General Supplies Dept., 35/90, compressors and ventilation

supplies, JD 3, 29/5/1990; 112/90, dentistry supplies and materials, JD 25, 18/6/1990; 119/90, paper of various types and sterile wax, JD 4, 22/5/1990; 120/90, raw and industrial materials for educational means, JD 3, 28/5/1990; 123/90, metal beds and sponge mattresses, JD 20, 18/6/1990.

JD 3, 21/5/1990; 124/90, medical syringes, JD 20, 5/6/1990; 128/90, personal computer, JD 2, 22/5/1990; 127/90, video and radio sets, JD 10, 22/5/1990; 131/90, X-ray films and supplies and medical consumables, JD 15, 11/6/1990; 131/90, X-ray equipment, JD 20, 18/6/1990.

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## Peace is still an option

The Palestinian Intifada entered its 30th month this week with no real indications of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories. And while Israeli soldiers continue to suppress Palestinian protesters, killing and injuring tens of civilians in the process, Israel is saddled with a political impasse that has put a halt on all recent attempts to break the deadlock and release the peace initiative, which was introduced by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) almost two years ago.

As we predicted in the past, the leaders of Israel's parties are unable to face the new realities forced upon them by the Palestinian rejection of their brutal occupation. Many of Israel's leaders still entertain the dream of an Eretz Israel that will move one step further towards fulfilling the grand Zionist scheme.

Thus Israel has turned its back not only on Arab and European peace initiatives, but has even reneged against its own peace plan. What we as Arabs, and indeed the rest of the world, have come to realise is the bitter fact that Israel's current dilemma is not the outcome of its search for peace, but rather the result of its intransigence and thirst for expansion at the expense of other people's rights.

The plight of the Palestinian people is an indelible stigma on the face of Israel. The Jewish people, who were themselves victims of oppression and racialism, have ironically become barbaric victimizers of a peaceful people.

Since the Intifada exploded 30 months ago, many attempts have been made by Arab leaders to support the steadfastness of Palestinians under occupation. It is sad to say that the majority of these attempts have failed to advance the Palestinian struggle towards achieving its noble goals. Under terrible circumstances and hard economic and social conditions, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians are still adamant in their challenge of Israel's hegemony. Is it not time that the world recognised the nobility of the Palestinian cause?

As the Arab leaders debate the urgency of convening an emergency Arab summit in Baghdad this month, we are reminded of the daily suffering of the Palestinian people who have paid dearly in their struggle. If an Arab summit is to be held soon it must make the target of liberating those Palestinians a reason for an open-ended meeting.

Despite Israel's arrogance and rejection of peace offerings, we still believe that the Palestinian people and the majority of the Arabs will prefer a peaceful settlement to any other alternative. Enough suffering has been endured by the victims of the Arab-Israeli dispute, but under no circumstances should Israel believe that its dreams and ambitions in the region can be fulfilled.

The Arab summit must be extraordinary in spirit. We all know by now the dangers of the Soviet Jewish emigration and the fresh wave of settlements currently encouraged by the Israeli government. What remains is to translate these fears, which are real, into a plan of action with all possibilities of a response to further challenges.

LETTERS  
TO THE EDITOR

## Wrong impression

To the editor:

In The Star, April 12-8, your news item "American executives share expertise with private sector" may inadvertently give the impression that the International Executive Service Corps (IESC) services are provided free of charge to Jordanian firms.

This is not the case. While it is true that our volunteers receive no payment or fees for their work, the costs associated with recruiting, travel and accommodation are normally shared by our Jordanian clients, the Ministry of Planning/USAID in Amman and Washington.

There are many reasons for the programme's success, but chief among them must be the one-to-one relationships American businessmen have been able to make with their Jordanian counterparts.

Clearly, as a not-for-profit organisation we are very dependant upon the grants we receive from USAID, but we should not forget that without the support of Jordanian businessmen and women, our programme could not continue.

Richard G. Spear  
Director of Operations - Jordan  
International Executive Service Corps.

The Star

Ad-Dustour



## Postscript

by Osama El-Sherif

## Egypt's last king

DURING A recent visit to Cairo I was astounded by the number of recently-published books which deal with the life of the late King Farouk of Egypt. The authors, who were dealing with one of the most controversial figures in modern Arab history, were either exonerating the man and clearing his name 38 years after he was forced to abdicate, or lashing out at his era as one of corruption and scandals. After almost four decades since his abdication, King Farouk remains an enigma to most Egyptians and Arabs. Needless to say, both accounts of the life of Egypt's last king: the one which hopes to cleanse his tarnished image and the other which continues to depict him as a womaniser who only sought to satisfy his personal needs at the expense of the Egyptian people, are very subjective to say the least.

One of these books, published in Arabic under the title of "The Nights and Whims of Farouk" is a sensational account of the king's love affairs with famous women of his times; from his first and "innocent" infatuation with Safinas, who later became Queen Farida, to numerous sexual adventures with movie stars, oriental belly dancers and ladies of the court.

The author, Said Siddiq Abdel Fatah, has collected various tales, and rumours from a number of sources to further enhance the stereo-typed image of a playboy king, who was, according to him, a puppet in the hands of the British who were still a great colonial power during Farouk's reign. In two months since it was first published in January of 1990, two prints of the book were sold out and a third print is expected this summer.

To many Egyptians, who still remember the obese Farouk who always wore dark glasses in his final years, the last king of Egypt remains a mystery. His true feelings for the British, his role in the 1948 Arab-Israeli war and the creation of Israel and his confrontation with the Muslim Brotherhood and the Free Officers movement which later toppled him, are issues of great debate within the Egyptian society until today.

A serious attempt to answer some of these questions has been made by Adel Thabit, whose book, "A King Betrayed", is also in its second print. Thabit, whose mother was a cousin of Farouk's domineering mother Queen Nazil, became a close associate of the king and his father was Egypt's ambassador to Iran at the time when the Shah Mohammed Riza Bahlavi was married to Farouk's sister Empress Fawzia.

Thabit claims that, opposite to common conviction, King Farouk was an Egyptian

patriot, who hated the British and later paid the price for standing in their way. He concludes that Farouk was also betrayed by the Americans who fell for the Free Officers movement and provided them with assistance and, most importantly, convinced the British to go along with the goal of removing Farouk from Egypt's throne.

The writer, whose book originally appeared in English, revealed that after the defeat of 1948, which he blames on corrupt Egyptian generals and lack of Arab support, Farouk was determined to build a modern army using German expertise. Thabit himself negotiated and later brought to Cairo, in utmost secrecy to the extent that the Egyptian chief of staff was kept in the dark, a highly decorated and experienced German officer who served in Hitler's North Africa Brigade, Gen. Schmidt.

The presence of the general, who met the king and agreed with him on details to re-build the Egyptian army, was later discovered by the Egyptian military command who, according to Thabit, informed the British and the Americans of the king's intentions. The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) conspired to remove Gen. Schmidt and replaced him with another German, who, it was later discovered, had shady relations with the CIA and the Israeli Mossad.

Thus, Thabit says, Farouk was not only betrayed by his own palace assistants and military commanders who were vying for the support of the British — then the supreme rulers of Egypt — but also by himself. The author says that much of the blame falls on Farouk himself who resisted the siege put around him by British agents to prevent him from establishing contacts with political parties, the Free Officers and his own subjects.

Farouk was toppled in 1952 by the Free Officers, who ended their relation with the CIA to the latter's surprise, and changed the course of Egypt's history.

The controversy around Farouk is unlikely to end. Many Egyptians, to whom I have talked, are still wondering which version of the last king's biography to believe. Was Farouk a victim of circumstances, colonial shake-ups in the aftermath of the Second World War and the creation of Israel? Or was he simply a man who was led astray by his entourage of hypocrites and weak-headed men?

Farouk died in 1965 while he was living with a girl friend in a Rome restaurant. He was 45. It is alleged that he was poisoned by the Egyptian intelligence. In his 13 years in exile the last king of Egypt never told his side of the story.

A special section

on global affairs prepared for  
The Star

## The World Paper

May  
1990CENTREFOLD  
A UNITED GERMANY:  
FOR BETTER OR WORSE?

NEW SHAPE OF FOREIGN AID

## Reslicing the pie

East Europe vs. poor states  
in a free market world

A Kenyan official compares Eastern Europe to a "most sexy beautiful girl" and Africa to a "tattered old lady," reflecting fears that the world's fascination with Eastern Europe may be the biggest threat to developing countries. The poorest fear the worst—that rich states of the West and Japan in their new lust for the democratizing East may forget them almost entirely in doling out aid.

These are part of *The WorldPaper* examination of a new issue—reslicing the aid pie in a free market world. Our special report includes the perspectives of a First World giver and a Third World getter, a new donor and an old recipient, as well as an assessment of whether foreign aid in any form really works as intended.





## RESLICING THE PIE

## Third World aid anxiety...

Poor countries worry as West hastens to help East

BY ABUL MAAL A. MUHITH  
in Jakarta, Indonesia

IF THERE IS a 20th century miracle, it is the totality of the developments of East Europe in 1989. Not since Napoleon Bonaparte has anyone influenced such breathtaking events in Europe or the rest of the world at such a rapid pace as has Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. Democracy and pluralism are on the march. The unexpected and dramatic transformation has made private enterprise and market forces—although still elusive in practice—the accepted creed in all of East Europe.

The transformation worries the poor of the world; anxiety has spread among the leaders of the Third World. While for the time being aid loans on a concessional basis seem safe, they worry they may lose direct foreign investment and commercial loans because of new demands from East Europe.

In the short run, the basis for their anxiety is genuine. Commercial banks already are abandoning the developing world. According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), international bank lending has dropped from US\$49 billion in 1980 to \$4.76 billion in 1988. East European demand will speed their complete withdrawal. The foreign aid budgets of donors are not expanding.

In the long run, East Europe has the potential for fast growth, which will create trade that will benefit the Third World and East European aid budgets for developing states will grow.

Some estimates put the need of East Europe, minus East Germany, at about \$75 billion for the next five years. Many, including Third World leaders, are wondering where the money will come from and how it will affect the capital requirements of the developing countries.

About \$20 billion of the sum is required in terms of balance of payment support. Debt relief on generous terms, including at least two years grace period and extension of the repayment period, can provide two-thirds of this requirement.

The problem is the transition period, which may last a couple of years and deepen pressure on the developing countries. As Eastern Europe dismantles its command economies, domestic restructuring of laws, regulations and institutions will take time. The reorientation of East European bureaucracy will cause serious bottlenecks.

The economic boom that followed the end of the Marshall Plan period in West

Abul Maal A. Muhith was finance and planning minister of Bangladesh until 1984 and is now a consultant with the UN Development Program.

Europe is what is likely to be duplicated eventually in East Europe.

The anxiety of the Third World needs to be put to rest. These steps can do it:

- Donors should not divert concessional resources from the Third World to East Europe. They should consider the kind of gesture already made by Dutch Minister for Economic Cooperation Jan Pronk who has pledged that whatever official assistance goes from the Netherlands to Eastern Europe will be in addition to aid to the developing world. In 1987, the developing countries received concessional assistance of \$41 billion, including \$21 billion in grants and \$4.8 billion from Comecon. As a proportion of GNP of developed countries,

The Brady Plan obviously is inadequate. The 1988 Toronto summit initiative on debt forgiveness covers a small part of the total burden. Commercial banks already are selling their loans at a discount, under the table, in a secondary market. The time has come to make the system legal, so to speak, by having the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank jointly manage a debt consolidation facility that will buy Third World debt at a discount and pay back lenders at a discount.

A source now exists for the money this facility will need—the so-called peace dividend from savings of disarmament in the USSR, United States, elsewhere in the West and in the developing world itself.

The Third World now absorbs about 11 percent of global direct foreign investment, about \$16 billion a year. There is a real fear that this flow will be redirected to East Europe. The only silver lining is growth in direct foreign investment reflected in the new activism of Japan

more hardship for East Europe partly because of rising expectations.

The East European countries have a debt burden of about \$94 billion in limited trade in convertible currency. Their total two-way trade, 57 percent with the USSR, 15 percent among themselves and 28 percent with the rest of the world.

On the other hand, the economic integration of the two Germanys will be costly and will mean that West Germany will have 27 percent more people, 23.5 percent more GDP and 9 percent more in foreign trade.

The burden of West Germany will be \$20 billion more in foreign debt, responsibility for upgrading East Germany's social security system, East Germany's inflation and an increased bill for energy because the Soviet Union will ask for payment in convertible currency.

On the West German plus side will be a large trained work force, new high level skills (23 percent of German Democratic Republic university-

## The major getters...

Top recipients of official development aid (ODA)\* (US\$ in millions)

Country	1988	1985
India	2,099	1,592
China	1,973	940
Indonesia	1,626	603
Bangladesh	1,590	1,152
Egypt	1,537	1,791
Pakistan	1,439	802
Israel	1,241	1,978
Tanzania	975	487
Sudan	923	1,129
Ethiopia	912	715
Kenya	808	438

Total ODA  
Worldwide 51,000 49,000

\*Excluding aid from USSR and East bloc countries



this amount at least should be maintained.

- East Europe should continue its small aid program of \$500 million and open its doors to Third World trade, a gesture that will indicate as East Europe grows, the Third World also will benefit.

- The proposed European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to help East Europe find \$12 billion in needed capital financing, should from its start stipulate a limited life for active operation; in due course, it should be absorbed by the European Investment Bank. While commercial banks provided about \$87 billion in loans to the Third World, the total outflow from these countries servicing both concessional and commercial loans was \$125 billion. This is where substantial relief to the Third World is desirable.

- Most important of all, new arrangements should be made for debt relief for the Third World. The \$1.3 trillion debt burden consistently threatens the growth prospects of the Third World, particularly Africa and Latin America.

and the flow from nontraditional sources like Taiwan and South Korea or from Saudi Arabia and South Africa, which may enter the scene in the near future.

One saving development means the beginning of a civil society in East Europe—the move towards demilitarization. Demilitarization releases scarce resources for economic development. Most important of all, it will eliminate the values and ideals that are associated with the military mind, that threaten democratic aspirations and impede economic progress.

Communist East Europe was doing pretty well in terms of economic growth and social security for most of the post-World War II period. Even in the traumatic years of the 1970s it adjusted well, but at a price.

Debt burden and dependence on Soviet energy subsidies made it vulnerable. In the 1980s, these countries experienced per capita income decline like most of Africa and Latin America, although not at the same steep rates. The immediate future means

students are in higher institutions compared to 18 percent in the Peking Republic) and relief from settling as many as 400,000 East German refugees annually.

Adjustment to a market economy will be easier in East Europe than in the USSR because Eastern Europe has had experience with capitalism. In the Soviet Union, the transition after the 1989 revolution was straight from feudalism. Its transition is strewn with obstacles. During this period, maximum relief to the USSR will come from reducing military spending.

Fifty-two percent of USSR trade is with the larger Eastern European market in which payment does not need to be convertible. East German trade, move to convertible currency, and others, the movement will be gradual. By 1995, East Europe will be in a relationship with the EBRD on the one hand and the USSR on the other. Perhaps the end of the century, Europe will be one market.

## RESLICING THE PIE

## ...East European squeeze

Canada cuts budget but targets cash in Europe

BY MAUREEN O'NEIL  
in Ottawa, Canada

"EASTERN EUROPE is the most sexy beautiful girl," says B.A. Kiplagat, permanent secretary of the foreign ministry in Kenya, one of the top recipients of assistance from the West. "We are a tattered old lady. People are tired of Africa. So many countries, so many wars."

What Kiplagat reflects is the fear that the world's fascination with Eastern Europe may be perhaps the biggest threat to developing countries. The poorest fear the worst—that rich states of the West and Japan may forget them almost entirely.

## ...the major givers

Top donors of official development aid (ODA) (US\$ in millions)

Country	1988	1985
United States	9,777	9,403
Japan	9,134	3,797
France	4,777	3,150
W. Germany	4,700	2,942
USSR	4,485**	3,064
Italy	3,012	1,098
United Kingdom	2,615	1,530
Canada	2,340	1,631
Netherlands	2,231	1,136
Saudi Arabia	2,097	2,630
Sweden	1,534	840
China	185	167
India	126	144
Kuwait	108	771

Source: OECD, Paris \*\* 1987

Some donor countries like Canada already have reduced their aid flows. Aid took the biggest cut in 1989, 12 percent, and threatens to bear the brunt again—with an additional squeeze from Eastern Europe needing urgent assistance.

The government projected in April 1989 a saving of US\$1.5 billion over five years in official development assistance, then in February projected another \$475 million in savings over the next five years for a total of nearly \$2 billion—or almost a whole year's ODA.

At the same time, Canada has made \$80 million available to East Europe, almost all to Poland. Canada's share in a new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development would be between \$125 million to \$500 million, clearly diverting funds from World Bank borrowing. No wonder developing countries are nervous.

Maureen O'Neil, former secretary general of Canada's federal Human Rights Commission, is the president of the North-South Institute in Ottawa, Canada.

The changing relations between East and West may have significant impact on the South in four key areas:

- Resource flow, including investment, aid and commercial bank lending: Many developing countries need foreign exchange, capital technology to support their difficult structural adjustment programs. The most extreme case is Africa. The World Bank estimates that if per capita incomes are to rise by a bare 1 percent, gross transfers of \$21 billion per annum, rising to \$28 billion are needed during the 1990s, compared with \$17 billion in 1986. Both Africa and Latin America are concerned that a Western seduction by East Europe may marginalize their needs and that without sufficient economic assistance the economic restructuring—in many cases, imposed by Western donors—may be put on hold. Canada forcefully brought home the point when it announced a \$42 million aid package for Poland shortly after drastically cutting back its traditional aid budget.

- Arms reduction and demilitarization: A key question for developing countries is whether disarmament will produce a "development dividend," either releasing resources for aid to developing countries, from the West and East, or for more aid to East Europe. Disarmament also raises the issue of persuading developing states to demilitarize and reallocate resources from military spending to economic development. Arms purchases also have become a significant portion of debt. On the other hand, developing states could step up military spending despite any relaxation of superpower tensions. This may already have occurred because of the flow of used or obsolete Soviet arms to Kabul. Also, will arms producers in the United States and USSR try to maintain output and employment through increasing sales to Third World customers?

"The arms control accord that the Warsaw Pact and NATO are likely to reach should prohibit either side from reducing its arsenal by selling weapons systems at discount rates to the Third World," Hans Dietrich Genscher, West Germany's foreign minister, has suggested usefully.

- Trade: The key concern of developing countries with a rising share of trade as a result of their structural adjustment programs is the impact of the reintegration of the Eastern bloc into the world market. Developing countries already are facing increased competition from East Europe. The diversion of Western importers to Eastern markets may reduce the volume of developing country exports to the West. This may happen for two reasons:

Developed countries have cut tariffs on imports from East Europe; the United States is likely to grant some

most-favored-nation treatment. Canada and the United States already have granted Poland and Hungary preferential tariff status on an equal footing with imports from developing countries.

Secondly, increases in the volume of exports from East Europe may be at the expense of developing countries in Western markets where access is restricted by quotas on such items as clothing and textiles. The European Community's removal of quotas on textile exports from Hungary and Poland would curb the growth in imports from developing countries.

Also, developing countries have to consider the impact of the end of the East-South trade arrangements that have given many of them special access to Eastern European markets. Cuba, dependent on USSR subsidies for oil imports and for sugar exports, stands to lose with the Soviet Union's increasing preference for dollar trade.

- North-South dialogue: The integration of the Soviet bloc into the world economy likely will broaden East European participation and membership in such international institutions as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), various UN agencies and regional development banks. This raises the question of the impact on the North-South dialogue, which is already unfolding in new directions. On which side will the former Soviet bloc states be in Fund and World Bank discussions of debt and of policy lending, given their own increasing support of market forces and liberalization? Will their presence mean a greater understanding of development issues, or shift the international debate away from the priorities of developing countries?

There is no question developed countries must find ways to assist the revolution in the East. But they must not leave out poor countries.

The West may even have been too zealous in both the nature and speed of the reforms that is the price it imposes on poor countries for continued assistance. Jeffrey Sachs, the Harvard University economist who has advised Bolivia in its structural adjustment to cut inflation and Poland's Solidarity for eight years, points out that Poland in six months is trying to make reforms that the United States under the Gramscian-Rudman deficit cutting plan hopes to accomplish in five years.

For Eastern European countries with infrastructure, good education systems and a more egalitarian distribution of income (especially compared to Latin America), these adjustments are the right policy choices. "The leap across the chasm" described by Poland's finance minister may be possible in Eastern Europe in ways it is simply not possible for the impoverished countries and continents, especially Africa.

While Canada and the rest of the West rejoice at the fall of the Berlin Wall, they cannot retreat into North Atlantic isolation. They must maintain programs in southern countries until the walls of poverty collapse.



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Published by WorldTimes, Inc.  
510 World Trade Center  
Boston, MA 02210 USA  
Telephone: (617) 439-5400  
Telex: 681773 Fax: 617-439-6405  
Volume XII, Number 8  
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## RESLICING THE PIE

## Taiwan lures allies with aid

Onetime aid recipient begins new role as donor

By BOB KING  
in Taipei, Taiwan

TAIWAN, BENEFICIARY of at least US\$1.5 billion in foreign aid before its own economic breakthrough a decade ago, is now cranking up its own foreign aid program, a representative of the new

industrialized economies (NIEs) now under pressure to give as they once received.

This cash-rich but relation-poor island state is also a special case. Because Taiwan is considered formally part of mainland China by the Beijing government and many other states, potential aid recipients must weigh the risk of

a diplomatic crunch by taking money from it.

What Taiwan hopes, but doesn't say, is that recipients of such aid, which includes grants and soft loans, will be persuaded to forge closer ties as well as foster their own development.

Taiwan, with foreign exchange reserves of about US\$79 billion—second only to Japan's—finds itself constrained by limited give-away liquidity, as well as little experience as a benefactor. To date, Taiwan has disbursed only about \$120 million to developing nations willing to take a "friendly" stance towards it.

Still, the nation's year-old aid pro-

gram, called the International Economic Cooperation Development Fund, will be expanded as the fund's managers gain more experience, says Chou Yen, director of the fund's auditing department. Chou foresees future annual allocations running from \$150 to \$200 million.

"For us, it's a new business," says Chou. "We're learning from doing, and we hope that in the future we'll be in a better position to make this our forte."

The first aid package comprised about \$22 million sent to Panama and Costa Rica to help the two countries set up export-processing zones. The fund is also currently considering aid to Ireland, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and Lesotho. The bulk of the aid already disbursed, nearly \$100 million, went to others that Chou declined to identify because of delicate political or commercial considerations.

Taiwan currently has formal diplomatic ties with only 26 nations, most notably Saudi Arabia, South Korea and South Africa. Taiwan has also forged substantive, though unofficial, ties with another 27 countries, including the US, UK, France, and West Germany, which have cultural or commercial offices here.

Taiwan, Chou says, has built its present wealth on pragmatism and efficient business practices—attitudes that Taiwan expects to foster among recipient nations. It also hopes to make them "independent rather than dependent" through its program—holding to the concept that it's better to teach someone how to plant rice than to give him rice.

That approach was, of course, one of the keys to Taiwan's own economic development. The US government, Chou reckons, pumped about \$1.5 billion in economic aid to Taiwan through the mid-1960s, when the program was discontinued.

That's a paltry sum by today's standards—certainly compared with Taiwan's own reserves today—but it was princely then. Chou estimates the annual aid provided by the United States amounted to 5 percent of Taiwan's annual GNP during the early 1950s—sizeable enough to prime the economic pump and help get the island's economy on the rapid-rise curve that has left Taiwan awash with cash and consumer goods.

The program may help Taiwan's problem of having too much money around by helping to encourage the private sector to invest overseas.

Because of liberalizations introduced more than two years ago that allowed individuals to remit up to \$5 million a year abroad for virtually any type of investment, the government does not have accurate figures on how much Taiwan's capital goes where, Chou says.

Local press reports detail billions of dollars in investment overseas by Taiwanese entrepreneurs, mostly in the Asian region, and such investments will probably increase dramatically as they here continue to rise.

Bob King is a correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Financial Times Business Journal*.

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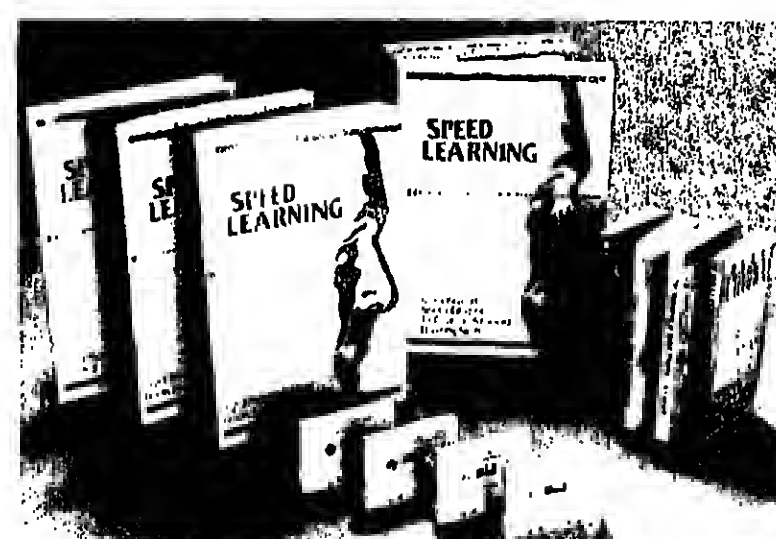
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## RESLICING THE PIE



## US aid back as Chamorro takes over

\$6 billion in help from USSR is not enough to save Sandinistas

By ALVARO TABOADA TERAN  
in Miami, USA

FROM THE BEGINNING a decade ago, the Sandinistas willingly made Nicaragua an example of the principle that in the cold, cruel world of international relations, giving and receiving foreign aid are as much tied to politics as pure unselfishness.

A top Sandinista leader, Commander Bayardo Arce Castano, in a restricted meeting shortly after the revolution succeeded, suggested the ultimate irony—"building socialism with Yankee dollars."

Although the Sandinistas had since 1962 planned to build a Marxist-Leninist power structure, the United States became Nicaragua's most important source of foreign help during the first 18 months of its revolution. A decade later, the United States is assuming the same role as the Sandinista revolution re-creates, beaten at the polls by Violeta Chamorro and her National Opposition Union (UNO) coalition.

The Soviet Union invested almost US \$6 billion in Nicaragua in the 1980s. Although a bilateral study exists on Soviet-Nicaraguan cooperation until the year 2000, political changes in the USSR and the UNO election victory suggest Soviet aid is condemned to severe restriction.

The United States is expected to bear the burden of help to rebuild a Nicaraguan economy, which has fallen to a level similar to the one Nicaragua achieved in the 1930s. Officials from the elected government already have requested \$800 million from the United States.

Alvaro Taboada Teran, a former Sandinista government ambassador to Ecuador, is a lawyer and political scientist.

Overwhelmed by the needs of a rapidly changing Eastern Europe, the Bush administration has suggested \$300 million for Nicaragua. Democrats in Congress suggested sharing the amount with Panama and giving more to Eastern Europe as the US government is likely to relapse into its traditional and ill-fated policy of underestimating the importance of socio-political events in the Americas. Just in case, Nicaragua also has sent a delegation to seek aid from Japan, now becoming the world's No. 1 donor.

The nature of Soviet and US cooperation with Nicaragua was determined during the past 10 years by each superpower's interest as well as by the nature of the Sandinistas, their interest and weltanschauung. That will continue despite new elements such as the deepening of Soviet new thinking and the inauguration of a new Nicaraguan government.

Soviet cooperation from 1980 to 1985 was linked to the USSR's desire to erode US power in the Western hemisphere, to make the Sandinistas an example of socialism's new international advances and gain a geopolitical edge from Nicaragua's proximity to the US Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

The United States' interest in providing aid to the newly arrived Sandinista regime was to stop a decline of US influence in Central America, co-opt the Sandinistas and prevent a spillover of their radicalism into the region and avert the regime's radicalization.

The US approach overlooked the strength of ideology internationally in the 1970s and early 1980s. The Sandinistas took power in Managua after a legitimate national upheaval against the Somoza dictatorship at a moment when it seemed the Third World would be taken by Leninist and Leninist-oriented

Riding high now,  
Chamorro seeks Yankee  
dollars to stay there.

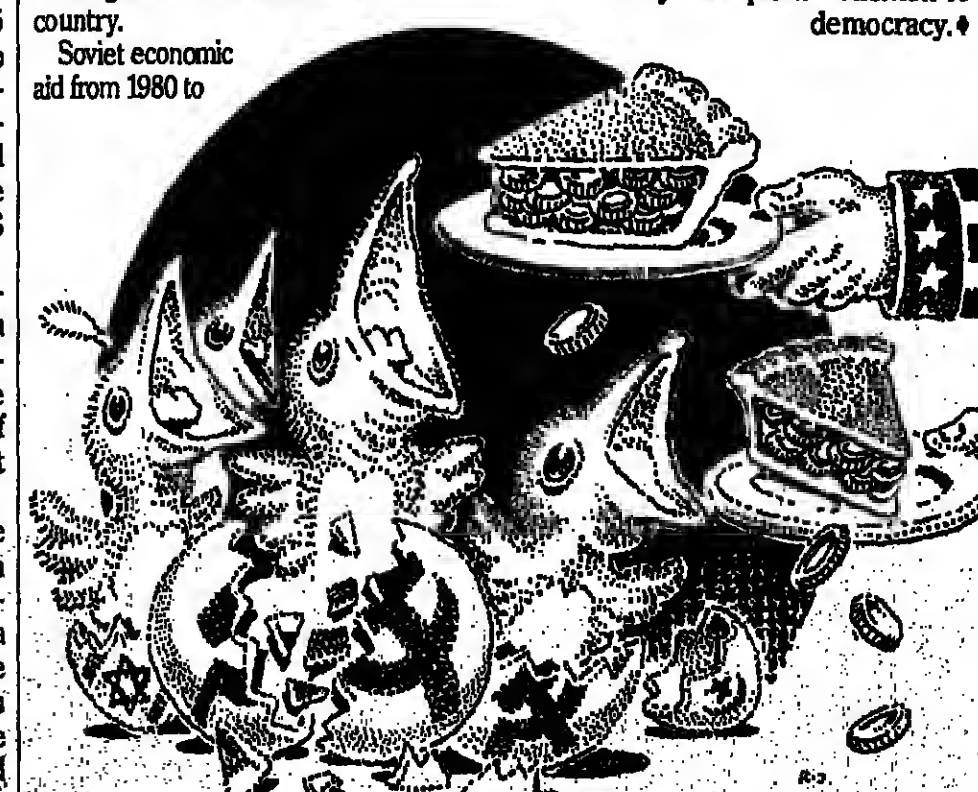
1989 was approximately \$3 billion and military aid approximately \$2.8 billion, enough to allow the Sandinistas to build the most powerful war machine in Central America. The army of 120,000 soldiers drawn out of a population of 3 million was instrumental in preserving the regime for 10 years.

The Ronald Reagan administration confronted the Sandinistas, cut aid, reduced the Nicaraguan sugar import quota, imposed a trade embargo and financed the Nicaraguan armed resistance.

The latter, a complex array of forces with a predominantly peasant social basis (90 percent of the 20,000 resistance fighters were peasants), kept alive a protracted eight-year armed struggle. The resistance forces spread their operations to 60 percent of Nicaraguan territory between 1984 and 1988 and became a major if largely unrecognized factor that forced Sandinistas to the negotiation table. The war eroded Sandinismo, particularly in political terms as defense of the party was increasingly dissociated from the defense of the fatherland in the eyes of a major segment of Nicaraguan society.

The Soviets, acting within the general thrust of superpower efforts to defuse regional conflict, also exerted a not-well-determined degree of persuasion on the Sandinistas to participate in Central American peace talks. They, therefore, stimulated them to face elections this year.

In this way, through military, economic and political-diplomatic pressures, the Sandinistas were cornered into the February 25 elections. Any serious analyst would agree that the limited, never fully disbursed US aid to the Nicaraguan opposition played a minor role in the February 1990 elections. Nonetheless, US and Soviet aid to Nicaragua is among those international factors which including domestic developments help to explain the rise and fall of the Sandinista regime in the current yet incipient transition to democracy.





Deutschlands Niederrhein

## Angst from Poland

BY MARCIN KROL  
in Warsaw, Poland

**N**O, WE ARE not afraid of German reunification. We are, however, rather uneasy about it. But then—why? We are not really afraid that on a sunny day (as on September 1, 1939) we are going to see German planes dropping bombs on Warsaw. The idea of a reunited Germany taking over Poland also seems rather

We Poles are also not in a position to be afraid of German economic domination. We rather have to be happy about German investments in Poland.

Our uneasiness, therefore, doesn't come from purely political sources. There are two main reasons for its persistence. The first is historical in nature; the second, spiritual. The first is about a situation in which a reunited Germany would find itself at its eastern border and

interest in joining the two German minority associations that have been created in the past year. We do not want to create a new (or re-create an old) occasion for German nationalism, that after reunification will have to find some new outlet.

Nationalism is a constant factor of public life in every society. Nationalists are people who are unhappy enough to organize themselves around a common denominator.

Nationalism is a constant factor of Polish life. One can always find people who are unhappy enough to criticize their ideas on the basis of the lowest common denominator. But we would like to see the democratic Germany trying as much as possible to avoid such tendencies, to avoid creating an atmosphere in which this nationalism would flourish. From this point of view, Helmut Kohl's "dances" around the question of the Oder-Neisse border, established arbitrarily without consultation with the Poles by the World War II allies at the Potsdam meeting, were not so much important as simply stupid and unimaginative. The possible gains in German internal policy were much smaller than the losses, and it seems that we were made to understand that.

The second and much deeper source of Polish weariness has a spiritual rather than ideological dimension. It is a temptation to say that Germans have until now behaved themselves because they knew that the future of their state depended on their democratic actions. Once unified, they are not going to be so concerned about their behavior, so unrationally afraid of democratic and normal. This doesn't mean they will immediately revert to some pre-Nazi or neo-Nazi movement. I find that totally unbelievable. But, being educated in philosophy and history and therefore culturally philo-Germans, I am afraid that Germans will very soon start to think that here I do not mean us.

...years) with very sophisticated moral, philosophical questions. I am afraid we are not prepared to participate in such a struggle. We shall immediately discover our minority.

For the last 40 years, Western Europe was happy  
in confrontation against communism. Politically in-  
adequate, culturally banal, this struggle is now over and it  
is sufficient to show the superiority of liberal culture  
dealing with an enemy that was essentially external  
and new, or forgotten, questions will be raised by Ger-  
mans about their spiritual tradition.

— Hans Senglers

These new, or forgotten, questions are asked because that is their spiritual tradition. We are ready to digest new Hegels, Nietzsches, Spenglers and to contrive a spiritual counterattack against these mad problems? Are we ready to think seriously about the place of religion in politics, about the relation between the individual and the community, about the moral obligations of an artist, about the meaning of our personal or social life?

the answer is no. Therefore we must be prepared that we shall soon attend once more the German school with all its usual consequences that it has always borne. We shall find that we are fascinated by barbarians, that the Western ways are not the only ways, that—contrary to what Fukuyama thought—history is not yet finished. Reunification of Germany is exactly the proof that history is not only not finished, it is being rejuvenated. And we know that youth is always difficult, although there are nice sides to it.

If we prepare ourselves sufficiently and are ready to accept the German spiritual challenge, the outcome of German reunification may be salutary for them and for us. If, on the other hand, we are confused or show contempt, aggressiveness will grow and Germans will go further on their strange way, which might lead toward dangerous extremes. ♦

**Deutschlands Widergeburt**

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## RESLICING THE PIE

# Kashmir troubles big powers

Signal cut in arms aid

BY MUSAHAID HUSSAIN  
in Islamabad, Pakistan

WHEN PRIME MINISTER Benazir Bhutto's special envoy Iqbal Akhund landed in Washington last March to lobby by the State Department on the Kashmir issue, he was in for a rude shock. US officials voiced their opposition to any attempt by Pakistan to "internationalize" the Kashmir issue—Pakistan's long-standing claim to India's predominantly Muslim state, Kashmir. State Department official John Kelly went further than that, however, and announced that the United States no longer supported the Pakistani view that a plebiscite should be held in Kashmir to determine whether the Kashmiris wish to remain a part of India or Pakistan.

The clouds of war that hovered over the South Asian sub-continent earlier this year due to tension over Kashmir

Mushahid Hussein reports for *The Nation* from Islamabad.



Shrill war cries get little superpower support.

have been replaced by a shrill war of words emanating from leaders in Islamabad and Delhi.

But unlike previous conflicts or situations of tension, one familiar factor is absent: the superpowers are not only refusing to take sides, but they are encouraging their respective regional friends to lower the temperature.

Even the Soviets, who for long had accepted the Indian view that Kashmir is an integral part of India, now concede that Kashmir is a disputed issue which should be settled peacefully and bilaterally between Pakistan and India.

The changing attitudes of Moscow and

Washington reflect the new realities of superpower politics in South Asia. The two South Asian rivals, Pakistan and India, were once important elements of the superpowers' contention and competition in an area that is one of the most strategic pieces of real estate in the Third World, neighboring China and the Soviet Union and overlooking the Persian Gulf lifeline to Western economies.

The superpowers' new stance in the region could signal the end of increasing military aid to South Asia, spurred on in the past by Pakistan and India's ability to play off their superpower benefactor's

and political support have been the key ingredients for influence by the US and the Soviet Union aiming to influence, respectively, Pakistan and India.

During the height of the Cold War, 1950-1985, Pakistan and India received arms worth over US\$8 billion and \$24 billion respectively, over 60 percent from each of their superpower patrons.

For the greater part of the 80s, Pakistan was the fourth largest recipient of US military aid after being recognized as a frontline state by Washington in recognition of Islamabad's strong opposition to the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. From 1980 to 1985, of Pakistan's \$2.2 billion in arms imports during this period, some \$1.3 billion came from the United States.

During the same period, India became the third largest recipient from the Soviet Union. Of its total of \$6.6 billion in military aid, \$4.2 billion was supplied by the Soviet Union.

It is thus no coincidence that while world military expenditure grew at 3 percent per annum during that period, South Asia, at 74 percent, registered the highest regional growth rate in military spending.

Initially, both superpowers supported UN resolutions seeking the granting of the right of self-determination to the Kashmiris. But the moment Pakistan joined the US-sponsored Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) in 1954, Moscow switched on the Kashmir issue, backing India's position. When Pakistan and India went to war in 1965 and 1971, particularly the latter instance, the superpowers found themselves on opposing sides backing proxies with arms and diplomacy.

Today, the scenario in South Asia is different. With stability and cooperation being the watchwords, Moscow and Washington seem to be striving for three common goals in South Asia.

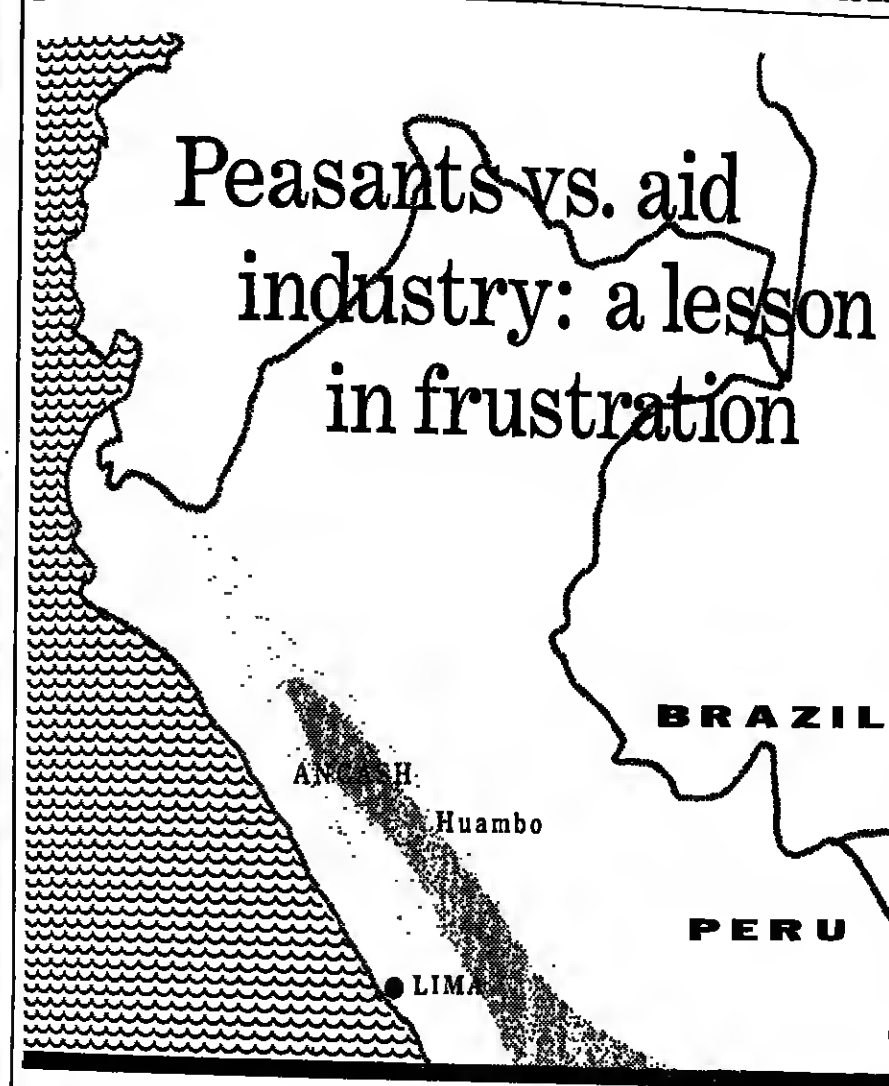
First, they are concerned with what they see as rising Islamic fundamentalism. Both superpowers support Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto as a moderate Muslim leader and both view the uprising in Kashmir as part of the Islamic wave stretching from Israel to India, sparking the struggle in Lebanon, the Intifada in Palestine, the stirrings in Azerbaijan and the civil war in Afghanistan.

Second, both are cooperating on the nuclear issue, particularly seeking to ensure that Pakistan does not develop a nuclear weapons capability.

Finally, while accepting the political preeminence of India as a factor for stability in South Asia, both Moscow and Washington are keen to bring about a rapprochement between Pakistan and India in the hope that absence of bilateral conflict between the two regional adversaries will not confront the superpowers with the difficult decision of choosing between Pakistan and India.

Keeping Kashmir out of the international political agenda is, therefore, viewed by Moscow and Washington as a necessary first step in their economic convergence on South Asia following the end of the Cold War.

## RESLICING THE PIE



BY WILSON RUIZ  
In Lima, Peru

FOR PEASANTS IN the Department of Ancash, 300 kilometers northeast of Peru's capital, Lima, survival is a daily challenge dogged by starvation, disease and natural catastrophe.

Rehabilitating a 30-kilometer irrigation canal built by their Inca ancestors more than five centuries ago seemed a reasonable strategy to improve their life, so the peasants of the community of Huambo entered the world of economic aid.

They discovered that underdevelopment, theirs and that of tens of millions in Latin America and elsewhere in the Third World, was a growth industry with a busy superstructure of well-paid aid administrators without necessarily reaching poverty at the grassroots.

The poor like the Huambo farmers, most of whom speak only the local Quechua language, also find themselves competing for funds with the new regimes in Eastern Europe that are more politically strategic to donors.

The farmers spent 10 years preparing the blueprints and technical studies that a Spanish development aid agency required before approving the project. Once they gave approval, the Spaniards, noting Huambo's lack of experience with the aid business, stipulated the US\$300,000 project had to be handled through a Peruvian non-governmental agency (NGO).

NGOs, private agencies seen as vehicles to deliver aid directly to the people and bypass often corrupt and inefficient government, have spread in Latin America like wild mushrooms as foreign aid becomes good business.

Wilson Ruiz is a filmmaker and correspondent in Peru for the *Toronto Globe & Mail*.

More than 1,000 NGOs, some financed by foreign aid, operate in Latin America along with numerous international studies centers.

After several fruitless attempts, the Huambo farmers found Accion Peru in Lima in 1987.

"When we agreed to work together," said Eleuterio Ramirez, a Huambo leader, "Accion Peru did not even have an established office."

Now the once humble NGO operates from a three-story house in a Lima residential neighborhood, employs 20 people and has bought two pickup trucks to visit its only project, in Huambo.

The rehabilitation project has covered four kilometers in two years, and the farmers accuse the agency of spending all the money.

A spokesperson for Accion Peru said its contract with the farmers did not specify the extent of the work to be done and called only for "general improvement of the social conditions in the community." Besides, said the spokesperson, who declined to be identified out of fear for her security, Accion Peru abandoned the project after receiving a death threat from the leftist Shining Path guerrillas.

She said the workers would return to Huambo once the armed forces pacified the area.

Accion Peru accused the farmers of "collaborating with the Shining Path subversives," said Ramirez, who denied the charge. "We know that the officials of Accion Peru have made a good living from the money for our project. But where can we go to complain?"

Aid also fuels a companion trade in "experts" from donor states earning high salaries and enjoying fringe benefits, often to the consternation of people in donor countries who see the large homes, servants and vehicles required to service life in tropical climates.

and exotic locations.

A West German development aid officer who asked not to be identified said in San Jose, Costa Rica, she earned \$5,000 monthly, more than her salary at home, and enjoyed a rent-free, four-bedroom house surrounded by a carefully manicured tropical garden and equipped with two housemaids, a gardener and a watchman.

At a Lima conference on social development organized by Caritas, the Roman Catholic relief agency, the Order of Oblate Missionaries in Peru complained in a report that too much aid money went to support the infrastructure, high salaries and countless conferences of 200 NGOs in Peru "while more than one-third of the seven million residents of Lima live in shantytowns built of straw mats, discarded wood and cardboard boxes."

More than three dozen NGOs operate in the Lima slums, several involved with ecological projects that reflect the donors' concerns with their greenhouse effects, their Chernobyls and their acid rains. Often their projects have little in common with the needs of the poor.

"Ecology is the latest fad in the North, and many Peruvian NGOs simply have hitched their wagons to it with the hope of getting some easy money," said Gustavo Fernandes, director of Lima's Andean Communications Center, a non-profit NGO that produces documentary TV films focusing on cultural identity and inequities.

The West has transferred \$125 billion in aid to Latin America since the United Nations proclaimed the 1960s the Development Decade. The persistent reality of poverty, often worse than a generation ago, and the growth of an external debt of \$410 billion, which often sends more money out of the region in interest payments than countries receive in assistance, clouds the value of aid.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America has estimated that 112 million Latin Americans—37 percent of the region's population—live below the poverty line. In 1970, 29 percent were below the poverty line.

In the past decade, Colombia, with an economy reinforced by the cocaine trade, has been the only country to show an increase in per capita annual income.


Victor Urquiza, a Mexican economist who has worked with the commission said the failure of aid programs to reach the poor reflected the attitude of donors.


"They equate development with economic growth," he said. "They have emphasized the economic liberalism that guided the development of the United States and Western Europe."

Joao Da Silva, a Brazilian sociologist and development consultant for the World Bank, says, "The multilateral dialogue between the donor nations and the aid-recipient countries still is the dialogue of the 19th century, dominated by the politics of dependence." ♦

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## Aid expert says East Europe could be future donor

Moise Mensah from Benin in West Africa is assistant president of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Rome-based United Nations agency that seeks to end hunger among the world's poorest. Mensah spoke to *The WorldPaper* about Third World concerns that developments in East Europe will reduce aid to the developing countries. Here is a portion of his conversation:

Will changes in East Europe draw development money away from traditional recipients in the Third World? My own theory is that the aid to Eastern European countries will go to development and in time could transform them into donors for the Third World. It needn't be a long process. For example, the per capita income in East Germany is only 30 percent less than West Germany. It shouldn't take long before East Germany reaches the same level as the West. The long-term projection is for international cooperation with the developing world, even if it hurts the Third World for a few years while the donors are preoccupied with Eastern Europe.

How deeply will it hurt? Levels of new aid have been

disappointing. Africa and other regions have played their part and made adjustments to improve their economic situations. But the results have been disappointing. More aid has not been forthcoming. Aid levels at IFAD in 1978 were US\$1 billion. Now the past two replenishments have been at a half billion dollars.

You paint a dark picture? I'm optimistic for a number of reasons. There is progress, such as in parts of Asia. While other regions are lagging behind, there is a greater awareness of issues and steps needed to correct the situation. Better technology is available. Also, there is a preoccupation with getting the people involved in the process of decision making. We also have seen the greater role that nongovernmental

organizations (NGOs) play in the process of alleviating poverty. We also seem to be going through a decade of peace, and we pray the good news will continue. You need a crystal ball to know what will change next—but people are forcing governments to accept change. The process is irreversible. The transistor has brought the literate into the election and decision-making processes.

In that case, is the goal of ending hunger practical?

Whether it is a practical goal or not, it is a goal which we must achieve some day, somehow. It does not help to keep on saying that we want to end hunger and malnutrition. We can't do it at international cocktail parties and conferences. At the world food conference in 1974, Henry Kissinger said by the end of the decade, we should do our best to ensure that no children should go to bed hungry. That was a very noble objective. That was a big challenge which, unfortunately, we of the international community were unable to meet, meaning it is not an easy goal.



## DEUTSCHLAND, DEUTSCHLAND

# New worries in Germany over swift pace of unity

Unleashed East means new boom—and burdens

BY CLAAS THOMSEN  
in Hamburg, West Germany

THE GERMANS are in a hurry.

By their vote for the conservative parties in last March's election, the East Germans have chosen the highway to quick unity—they want to merge as fast as possible with their big Western brother. They have decided to "jump in" to the cold water of market economy," as West Germany's Minister of Economics Helmut Haussmann had recommended.

Germany's neighbors are thus confronted with some uncomfortable political and economic realities much faster than anybody expected. Even some German leaders, like former chancellor Helmut Schmidt, admonish that unification should proceed at a slower, "step by step" pace.

But events may have already outpaced the cautious. The unity of the economic, social and monetary systems of the two states is already well under way. The Deutsche Mark (DM) will most likely be introduced into the East by the middle of the year.

Prospecting West German industry, led by names like Mercedes-Benz, Siemens or Deutsche Bank, is even further ahead of the game. With joint-ventures and investments, they are well prepared to give the slumbering Eastern sister a wake up kiss.

The losers in all of this may be the opinion pollsters. Predictions of sizeable margins of victory for the Social Democrats were wrong. The absolute false forecast of a new left-wing government in East Berlin might be an omen for the general unreliability of predictions concerning the future of a united Germany.

One of the few reliable figures is that the population of a unified Germany will be around 78.5 million. West Germans alone, 62.5 million, accounted for 24.7 percent of the European Economic Community's gross national product. Simply added, East Germany, which already has a gross national product (GNP) per capita higher than Ireland, Greece or Spain, could lift the figure for a united Germany up to 27.8 percent.

Compared to the United States with a 1988 GNP per capita of US\$19,770 or Japan with \$14,340 a united Germany would only take the third place with its \$13,987. But with an unleashed economy in East Germany, setting free the energy of estimated 1 million new entrepreneurs, the race will just begin.

Claas Thomsen writes for the West German weekly *Die Zeit*.

Nevertheless, there is a growing concern in West Germany about reunification. In an opinion poll published in March in the weekly *Die Zeit*, only one out of four West Germans polled said they were willing to shoulder considerable sacrifices to achieve a unified Germany.

Even if the government keeps its promise not to raise taxes, there will be burdens. While well-skilled but low-paid workers from the East can be absorbed into the economy, West German wages may remain static, or possibly be cut. At the same time, the restructuring of the East German economy will lead to unemployment. Pessimists predict up to 2 million East Germans could lose their jobs. High unemployment rates will burden the German social system.

To be sure, there is money to finance a

new *Wirtschaftswunder* (economic wonder). West Germany has a net foreign credit position of DM470 billion, or about \$280 billion. That amounts to exactly the sum some experts predict will be needed to bring East Germany's economy up to West German standards. Some reach higher, but nearly all agree that already rising interest rates will be another 2 percentage points higher due to the costs of unity.

Drastically reduced armed forces in Germany, both Allied and German, are likely to stimulate an economic boom even more. Bonn has scheduled to reduce its military personnel from 495,000 to 420,000 in the coming years. East German figures will fall drastically too, and foreign forces will be thinned out as well. The Soviet Union will surely remain the main military power in Europe in the next decade, though the possibility exists of a complete withdrawal from Eastern Europe by the middle of the decade.

The leading military role of the USSR is already a millstone for the Soviet economy, and it is likely that most Germans will cherish a new lack of expensive defense responsibilities and the absence of a costly nuclear arsenal.

Germany's weapons industry might stagnate in the

process as well. European military projects are ailing, and capacities are required to produce more of those goods which made West Germany's 1989 trade surplus of \$80 billion the world's largest, surpassing Japan's \$73 billion surplus.

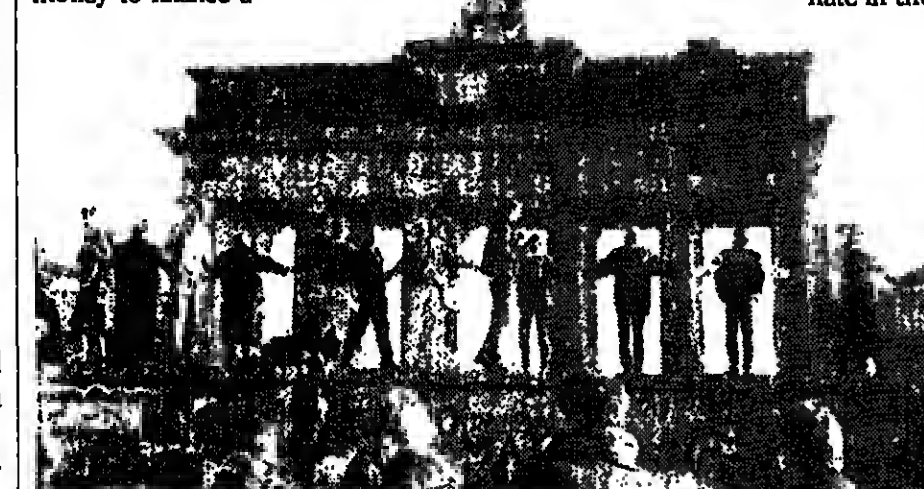
Actually, Germany in the years to come will have to reduce the accumulated trade surplus. It won't build up worldwide assets as Japan does, particularly because East Germans for years will want to enjoy the pleasures of high consumption. The new Eastern European markets should also be of interest for producers in the United States and other countries.

The new markets in Eastern Europe are in urgent need of machinery, chemicals, high-tech industrial systems and consumer goods—all German specialties. While some foreign leaders, especially Great Britain's Margaret Thatcher, fear a dominant industrial Germany's power over Central and Eastern Europe, others like Czechoslovakia's Vaclav Havel see Germany as a draught horse to create growth and development in the region.

Albeit, for its western neighbors, the political weight of a united Germany is of utmost concern. Even though Martin Bangemann, Bonn's solicitor in the EC headquarters, promised Germany would not "flex its muscles" in the EC, the days of France's rough parity with Germany might be over. After solving the initial monetary problems, the mighty Deutsche Mark will continue to increase German influence. After all, the EC countries will need a powerful economic lance to challenge not only Japan but the Pacific Region.

"There will be no Fourth Reich" promises Willy Brandt. He can refer to the 77 percent of those Germans who would like Chancellor Helmut Kohl to guarantee Poland the irrefutability of its western frontier. The new Germany may well be a turmoil, excited and a politically and religiously polarized country, but it is unlikely that Germany will neglect international ties. The multinational consultations within the framework of the so-called 2 + 4 negotiations between the four allies and the two Germanys are an indicator for that, as well as Germany's willingness to openly discuss the process to German unity.

The Germans understand that the Western alliance doesn't necessarily have to be a hindrance on the way to unity, more Germans are committed to keeping their country in NATO. The Warsaw Pact foreign ministers, save the Soviet one, already agreed that they would rather see a United Germany as a NATO member than a neutral Germany. Moscow may want to follow and may compromise rather than face unknown political risks. A solid anchor with the West through NATO and the EC and a good relationship with the USSR will be the most reliable insurance against raising fears. Rudolf Augstein, head of the influential West German news magazine *Spiegel*, makes no bones about this conviction: "We will be popular for a long time."



## Unified Germany at a glance

	E. Germany	W. Germany	United Germany	US	Japan
Area (sq. km.)	108,178	248,577	356,755	9,363,123	372,313
Population (million)	16	62.5	78.5	250	123
Exports (billion)	US\$23.9	\$323	\$346.9	\$321	\$284
Imports (billion)	\$22.2	\$250	\$277.2	\$459	\$187
GNP per capita	\$11,562	\$14,368	\$13,987	\$19,770	\$14,340
GNP (billion)	\$185	\$898	\$1,080	\$4,500	\$1,900
Armed forces (in uniform)	172,000	517,455	689,455	2.1m	248,600
Motor vehicles (million)	34	27.9	31.3	135	28.6
TVs (million)	6.1	23.3	29.4	145	31.5
Life expectancy	71.7	70.3	70.6	75	78
Infant mort. (per 1,000 births)	13.3	8.6	9.7	10	4.0

SOURCE: THE WORLD ALMANAC 1990; THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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# The Czech paradoxes of life

BY CROCKER SNOW, JR.

It's a very long way in time and circumstance from an unpretentious studio theater on the wrong side of Broadway on New York City's robust and randy 42nd Street to the proud and painful revolution taking place in Prague, Czechoslovakia today. And it is even longer and farther from this same theater to the pretentious psyche of Czechoslovakia that's depicted in this establishment's current one act play.

But those are the twin leaps of faith and fancy that an expatriate Czech producer Vasek Simek asks of his audience—and accomplishes—in the staging of a one act, two actor play called "Audience" that was written in 1974 by then dissident Vaclav Havel, Czechoslovakia's improbable new president.

As a leading voice of conscience or human rights throughout the Eastern bloc in the last two decades, a man imprisoned four times, Havel (and his works) have a multitude of double meanings today. The metaphor about totalitarianism that arises in both the script and staging of "Audience" goes far beyond

the mere topical or the fashionably chic. The play was offered repeatedly by Bohemia-born producer Simek to US theaters over the years, but always turned down. With the unhorsing of Communism in Eastern Europe and Havel's election as president, yesterday's irrelevant and absurd has become today's contemporary and compelling.

Like many of Havel's works, the play has an element of autobiography. It takes place in a brewery of the kind in which Havel once worked, and revolves around a sloppy, sodden and sentimental brewmaster who tries to take a young new worker, Vanek, under his wing. The brewmaster is a jaded student of the go-along-and-get-along school who has made peace with himself and the state through the liberating elixir of all the free beer he can drink. Indeed, he consumes such impressive quantities of the very brew he's producing, that he must exit stage left repeatedly to relieve himself and eventually can't even operate the buttons on his pants.

But beneath the uneasy absurdity of the brutish brewmaster and the sensi-

tive apprentice and behind all the burps and belches, the stage is slowly transformed into unsettling anthropological insights and commentary.

The brewmaster, one slowly discovers, is a spy, permitted his easy job in turn for low level reports on folks like Vanek, a suspect student playwright. But with all his consumption of pilsner, the brewmaster hasn't got much energy or imagination left. He doesn't know what to report on Vanek or even exactly how to write it up. In short, he's in a bind in fulfilling his commitment to the state. So he asks Vanek to do it for him in return for being moved from his current job in Fermentation and into a cushier job at the brewery.

The depth of the dialogue builds as the duplicity—and simplicity—of the brewmaster's plot becomes transparent.

The brewmaster pleads: "The worst thing is that I'm running out of ideas of what to tell them about you...who would know what they would want to know about you if not you?"

Predictably but gently, Vanek refuses: "Don't be angry with me now; I can't

be snitching on myself."

It's all a 90-minute head trip with an off Broadway hallucinogen from earthy absurdity to farce, from spacy reflection on political perversity in a Communist state to the drama of Eastern Europe today. The play raises the most absorbing questions. How do the disaffected laborers and disenfranchised intellectuals of a totalitarian state get together? What common ground exists between the snitcher, who can't submit reports to the state on his fellow worker only because he doesn't have a rich enough imagination, and the snitcher who draws the line at telling tales upon himself?

The symbolism and significance was magnified by the knowledge of Havel's moving words—as president and not playwright—about freedom and democracy in a remarkable Washington address to the U.S. Congress only weeks earlier.

The ironies are plentiful. Or, as the brewmaster puts it to his young apprentice Vanek almost as often as he must relieve himself, "There's the paradoxes of life."



## Arab-Soviet relations: Promoting dialogue

By Dr As'ad Abdul Rahman

IN THE wake of the multi-sided campaign currently raging against the Soviet Union, Arabs are called upon to define their attitude in a more independent, logical and unemotional manner. The lifting of restrictions and the subsequent mass exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel have aroused an outrage within the Arab World. The continued influx of Soviet Jews into Israel will no doubt have grave and adverse consequences on the indigenous population of Palestine. In order to absorb their increasing numbers, Israel is bound to confiscate more land and build additional settlements. Moreover, every such immigrant is a potential future soldier in the Israeli army. Despite this negative impact, the Arab campaign vis-à-vis the Soviet Union must be easily discernible from that of, say, the United States or Israel. Our motives and aims are different from theirs; consequently, our attitudes should differ. We are also called upon to block any attempt at driving a wedge between the Arabs and the Soviet Union. We should be solely concerned with whatever serves our interest. How do we do that?

The first step in our attitude towards the Soviet Union should emanate from our knowledge of the real problems facing that country. For varied reasons, the Soviet Union at present is lagging behind the West in the economic, technological and military arenas. The Soviet Union lately realised that unless a pragmatic approach is adopted, the gap is likely to widen and further deterioration would occur. It is increasingly clear now that the Soviet Union has become a second class super-power as compared to the United States whose role in world affairs has become more and more felt.

Faced by a moribund economy and internal dissent, the USSR has been forced to partially withdraw from the international scene and focus its energy and resources to remedy more pressing problems at home. Political rhetoric gave way

to pragmatism and the foreign policy of the Soviet Union was reshaped and remoulded to cater for the new objectives. The language of national interests came to supersede the language of Marxism and solidarity of the working class the world over. Obviously, this abrupt change of attitude is likely to infuriate many Third World countries. It should be crystal clear to any observer that the Soviet Union has chosen to concentrate on internal problems which had not received due attention for decades. Primrose fantasies aside, this actually means a partial, though possibly temporary, withdrawal from world affairs. Soviet assistance should not be taken for granted any more. From now on, we - the Arabs - have to make it on our own.

Once we understand the causes and objectives of the new Soviet policy, we should try to understand objectively the causes behind the "holy crusade" currently raging unabated against the Soviet Union. Zionists and pro Zionist Western mass media have taken advantage of the issue in order to drive this wedge between Arabs and the Soviet Union. Undermining the friendly Soviet-Arab relations has always been a prime target for Israel and the Zionist circles in the West. Notwithstanding its dangerous dimensions, the dangers and consequences of Jewish immigration have been grossly exaggerated in an attempt to drive the Arabs to the brink of despair. Amidst all this uproar, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has behaved in a quiet but firm fashion. Realising the dangers and hazards of losing a strategic friend like the Soviet Union, the PLO has declined to use vituperatory language against the Soviet friend but, nevertheless, has made clear the consequences and dangers of an uncontrolled Jewish exodus to Israel.

Our approach to the new Soviet policy in general and the immigration of Soviet Jews in particular should centre around one pivotal point, which is to endeavor to minimise our losses. Confrontation must



be avoided at all costs because we will be its first victims, and mutual dialogue must be promoted. Our target should be to try and convince the Soviet Union to review its policies, if total dissociation from these policies seems impractical.

The efforts of the PLO and Jordan in this direction seem to have achieved partial success; the Soviet Union has introduced certain amendments to its policy and the whole question of settling Soviet Jews in the occupied territories has been raised to the Security Council. Bilateral aviation agreements with Israel have been frozen and the direct line between Moscow and Tel-Aviv has been suspended. Soviet and Palestinian delegations are now exchanging visits with mutual and direct dialogue being intensified.

All efforts are now being directed towards preserving the age-old Soviet-Arab friendship. In order to renovate its crumbling economy and to replace its outdated machinery, the Soviet Union needs vast amounts of foreign capital, and the Arabs have part of that. Arab investment in the Soviet Union - among other measures - will be a good-will gesture on our part and will no doubt play a role in helping to catapult the Soviet Union out of its present predicament which has affected the Palestinians and made of them the "orphans of Perestroika".

## The hostages crisis: Pushing pragmatism both ways

The West's public acknowledgment of the Iranian role in the hostage deals in Lebanon signals the start of a period of realism without regrets.

By Sajid Rizvi  
Special to The Star

LONDON - The signals were conflicting but the news, on the whole, good. President George Bush made particular mention of Iran's role in securing the release of two American hostages up to that moment while the State Department reargued its own view of the country as an accessory to international terrorism.

The State Department's report was scheduled, the release of Frank Reed from captivity in Lebanon was not. In the latest round of the diplomatic game that Iran and the United States have played over the years, the report on terrorism was all but swept aside by the flood of news over the hostage issue. How can the president thank Iran for its help with the complex hostage deals now being negotiated and, literally the same day, his government blast the country for abetting terrorism? Perhaps the Iranians are not the only hard realists in the game.

One doesn't need to be privy to the labyrinthine paths taken by different sides in the hostage negotiations to recognise what has caused the change in the fortunes of the captives in Lebanon and, as a consequence, of the politicians who are the direct beneficiaries of this "breakthrough". Iran has undergone and emerged from a significant restructuring of its body: poli-

tic. In the process it has reset its priorities. It has been further encouraged by the almost accidental deterioration of diplomatic ties between its adversary, Iraq, and major powers of the West. Lastly it has looked at the United States' own adversary, the Soviet Union, found little assurance in its gathering domestic instability (right on Iran's borders), and readjusted its own strategic position in the area.

All those factors taken together can safely be held responsible for the change in Tehran that seems to be the prime mover of the hostage issue to near resolution. Whether it is pragmatism or realism Iranian-style it does raise the inevitable question: Where does Iran go from here? Until recently the country's favoured reiteration of its foreign policy goals centred on a theme developed by the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini: Iran would align itself to neither East nor West and it would defend this non-alignment at all costs.

Well, that non-alignment cost it dearly during the 1980-1988 war, while Iraq was able to cushion itself considerably with its moribund, or at least currently suspended, alliance with the West. Now the situation is so different as to be outrageously unique. With the juggernaut of Gorbachev's perestroika roaring away in full steam, perhaps out of control, too, what remains of the East? And what are the outer limits of the West? Is it the East which

is being westernised or is the West being consumed by change in the East? The simple answer is that one doesn't know, yet.

With global realignments far from crystallised, Iran's policy of neither East nor West can at best be held in abeyance - not suspended, scrapped or substituted by anything equally forthright or idealistic. This is where a pragmatic, day-to-day assessment and management of international relations comes in handy, and both Iran and the United States, as far as their mutual contacts go, seem to be practicing it as if it were the only natural thing to do.

So if Tehran today seems to be tilting towards Washington, or vice versa, that perceived inclination cannot necessarily be the prelude to a relationship to the exclusion of others (the Arab world for the United States, or the Soviet Union for Iran). That sort of absolutism simply won't work, and both Bush and Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani seem to reflect that awareness too well.

It is, however, instructive to know the facts on ground, and these are provided in considerable detail in a book to be published by the Yale University Press on 31 May. "Neither East nor West: Iran, the Soviet Union and the United States," edited by Nikki R. Keddie and Mark Gasiorowski, is essentially a study based on papers presented at a conference held in April

Continued on page 16

## View Point

by  
Yacoub Jaber

### Shamir's new era

YITZHAK SHAMIR is back at the helm of the Israeli government and he is already engaged in a process aimed at closing all venues to peace in the Middle East. Once he is fully settled at the head of a cabinet, Shamir is certain to do all he can to prevent the slightest progress towards a peace settlement.

He will say no to US Secretary of State James Baker's proposals for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. He will build new Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories to settle Soviet Jewish emigrants in an open defiance of Washington's mild protests. In short, Shamir's era will witness a complete stalemate in Middle East peace efforts and a sharp rise in violence in the occupied Arab territories.

How will the world react to Shamir's expected outrages? Would the two superpowers do something to stop Shamir and avoid a fresh escalation in the Arab-Israeli conflict?

The Soviet Union has its own major concerns and seems to have abandoned genuine interest in Middle East affairs. The influx of Soviet Jewish emigrants to Israel has shown that Moscow is no longer on the Arab side but rather a tacit supporter of Israel's expansionist designs. Had Moscow been earnestly seeking peace in the Middle East, it would have stipulated that Jewish emigration is to be allowed only after a just settlement to the Palestinian problem is achieved.

In Washington, those in president George Bush's administration who support the Israeli right have apparently won the upper hand. The US support of Israel and leniency with its peace-wrecking practices have never been as obvious as they are now.

Instead of working for peace, Washington is trying to convince the Soviet Union to open a direct air route between Moscow and Tel Aviv and has been launching an unjust campaign against Iraq because it simply stated that it will retaliate against an Israeli attack. Washington is also waging an unholy war against the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) membership in UN organisations.

For the first time in many years, the Arabs are fighting their battle without allies or outside support. The only difference is that this battle is the most ferocious and decisive in the history of the conflict.

This may not be bad as far as the Arabs are concerned. The Arabs need for once to depend on themselves and their enormous potentials to counter the growing Israeli threat. If they do, history will witness the rise of a great nation hardly in need of any kind of help from Moscow or Washington.

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## Insight

By Dr Nabil Al-Sharif

## A summit of action?

IT NOW looks quite likely that an Arab summit will be held within the next two weeks. Most of the hurdles along the way have been removed - with the exception of the most difficult one, i.e. the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement. But even on this front, there is continued progress and a meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad cannot be ruled out. If this meeting materialises, then all the roads leading to an extraordinary Arab summit will be open.

But, before allowing ourselves to get carried away by sentiments and emotions, let us for now ask ourselves this one single question: What do we, as Arabs, hope to achieve from the upcoming Arab summit?

Before venturing to answer this question, let us recall that two basic points are rumored to be on the agenda of this summit. First "confronting the new threat posed by the influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants and Shami's dream of establishing Greater Israel which means occupying more land that belongs to at least four more Arab countries."

The second point on the agenda of the upcoming Arab summit is "showing solidarity with Iraq as it faces Israeli threats of military aggression on its scientific installations and a Western smear campaign aimed at distorting the image of Iraq and making it look like an international menace - which will both facilitate and justify any military action against it."

With these two points in mind, we pose the question once again: What can or should we Arabs do to counter these threats?

If we were to judge by the record of the past Arab summits, we won't have difficulty imagining what this summit will achieve. This summit will likely issue a scathing condemnation of the "threat to peace" embodied in the "dangerous development" of the Soviet Jewish immigration. It will also extend its "fullest support" behind our brethren country Iraq as it faces "threat and irresponsible campaigns of hatred from the West." And for the next two weeks official Arab media will keep boasting about the "positive results of the Arab summit." But in spite of the rhetoric the threat of the Jewish immigration and the danger of an aggression on Iraq will continue to be there.

Luckily, there is an alternative to the usual competition of colourful words that usually accompanies Arab summits. Concrete material support for the Intifada and joint military Arab action in support of Iraq are the best alternatives. It remains to be seen, however, whether this summit will be devoted to action... or more words!

## Tunisia continues efforts toward liberalisation



President Ben Ali

WHILE TUNISIAN president Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali is committed to continuing the IMF-backed programme of economic liberalisation begun in 1986, the drive to privatise Tunisia's public sector has been moving slower than the government had hoped.

Tunisia's public sector accounts for at least 40 per cent of the yearly gross domestic product (GDP). Of the 200 major public sector companies, half are eligible for privatisation. Some fifty enterprises were sold over the past two years, generating about \$100 million, but most of these companies were relatively small. Ten of the forty companies sold during 1988 and 1989 reportedly went through the Tunis stock exchange.

The government has had difficulty finding buyers at the asking prices. There are reported cash shortages. In addition, many of the enterprises have a record of losses. Also discouraging to buyers, workers have gone on strike in protest against the job losses which will inevitably result from the privatisation of these typically over-staffed companies. Unemployment is already estimated at 25 per cent.

During the last three years, the government has introduced a variety of reforms in an effort to revitalize the economy. Restrictions on imports were relaxed. Some tariffs have been reduced and value-added tax was initiated. Capital equipment and semi-finished goods, to a large extent, were removed from the import licensing system.

The dinar was devalued in stages by about 40 per cent, with the reported intention of achieving a floating and thus convertible currency by the early 1990s. There has been a partial deregulation of the banking system. Recently, Citibank was allowed to establish a full branch for domestic business and the Arab Banking Corporation was awarded a similar license. Lending rates are no longer set by the Central Bank, though certain sectoral requirements still exist dictating the amount of bank assets which may be lent out.

The top rate of income tax has been cut from 65 per cent to 35 per cent. Corporate taxes for

trading, manufacturing and tourist companies were cut from 44 per cent to 35 per cent, while taxes for fishing, agricultural and handicraft companies were reduced from 20 per cent to 10 per cent. Measures to improve tax collection at the new rates are to be strongly upgraded.

The World Bank has given Tunisia high marks for its reform policies. The government has avoided having to reschedule its debt, even though debt servicing takes about a quarter of the country's foreign exchange earnings. The private sector and foreign investors have noted the government's progress in cutting some of the red tape which has bogged down economic activity. The encouragement of offshore trading companies is also seen as a good sign.

These achievements are notable in the face of the severe and persistent droughts which damaged three out of the last four harvests. On top of this, Tunisia suffered a locust infestation and torrential floods at the end of this past January. Tunisian officials estimate that the cost of damages from the floods is at least \$420 million. The Saudis provided \$50 million in aid for flood relief.

Faced with such daunting environmental conditions, there were questions as to whether Tunisia could continue with the structural adjustment package. Only 300,000 tons of cereal were harvested in 1988, down a

full 75 per cent from the long-term average. GDP rose by only 1.6 per cent in 1988, and the 1989 estimate was almost halved from 3.5 per cent to 3.1 per cent. Yet Ben Ali has managed to cling to the liberalisation programme-albeit not without some dissent in the ranks.

Efforts to revitalise the previously state-dominated economy have to date thus met with only partial success. Economists feel that significant reforms must continue, including more deregulation, a dismantling of the remaining trade barriers, stepped up efforts at privatisation, a relaxation of the labour laws and a strengthening of the stock exchange.

Total debt is estimated at about \$7.5 billion. (In comparison, Egypt is now labouring under a debt of over \$50 billion.) The trade deficit has increased 23 per cent from \$1.235 billion in 1988 to \$1.520 billion in 1989. However, exports increased 35.4 per cent from 1988 to 1989, to \$3.1 billion, while imports only increased 31.1 per cent during the same period to 4.61 billion.

The main growth areas for exports have been cement, clothing, electrical and mechanical products, semi-finished footwear and phosphate derivatives. The high growth in imports of machinery for the textile, electric and computer industries indicates an encouraging level of investment. Yet the proportion of consumer goods in overall imports has increased from 25.2 per cent in 1988 to 25.6 per cent in 1989. Two-thirds of the wheat consumed by the country must be imported. Food subsidies, which at almost \$422 million are a continued drain on the state coffers, were equivalent to the government's budget deficit in 1989.

The government expects the tourism industry, which accounts for 20 per cent of current account receipts and employs 10 per cent of the workforce, to enjoy its fourth healthy year in a row. While foreign exchange earnings were forecast this year at \$970 million, down 17 per cent from last year, it was noted that last year was exceptional due to the influx of Libyans after the opening of the Tunisian-Libyan border.

der. Recently, a number of Saudi businessmen invested in Tunisian tourist projects in Tabarka and Tunis, involving the construction of hotels, parks, villas and recreational facilities totaling almost \$50 million.

The government has sought to encourage foreign investment and has worked to remove any regulatory or bureaucratic obstacles which have served to impede business. For example, the General Motors Corporation of Detroit, Michigan, which was reported to be considering opening a car assembly plant in Tunisia anticipates that it may be able to begin preparatory activities such as employee training and ordering materials by mid-1990, as most of the outstanding issues have been resolved.

Interestingly, there is a growing phenomenon, not reflected in official statistics, of small "grass roots" entrepreneurs who are willing to defy the state and set up small, independent, privately-owned businesses and factories. According to experts, they are underselling and thus out-competing the technologically-advanced but less cost-effective state-owned enterprises. For example, the price of construction materials, once controlled by the state, has been market determined since 1986 due to competition presented by these small private companies.

As with so much of the rest of the world at present, Tunisia is combining economic liberalisation with at least partial political liberalisation. President Ben Ali has released political prisoners and legalised some opposition parties. However, he has not legalised the largest opposition group, Ennahda. Islamic in orientation, the group is seen as a threat by the secular government of Ben Ali. It is always a fear that such groups will thrive on the economic discontent of the populace. Anti-government riots at the end of February by student activists were reportedly organised by Ennahda.

The government recently reformed the electoral code and introduced a partially proportional representation system in municipal elections. The old system of "winner take all" had allowed the ruling party to take 25 of the parliamentary seats in the elections last April.

President Ben Ali's decision to appoint Ismail Khellil on 3 March as the new Foreign Minister bodes well for Tunisia's continued economic progress. Khellil, 55, was formerly the Governor of the country's Central Bank, and earlier was Tunisia's ambassador to the European Economic Community (EEC). Khellil's economic expertise and ties with the EEC are seen as conducive to Tunisia's drive to continue liberalisation, promote foreign investment and improve trade relations with the EEC.

With further economic liberalisation policies, economists say the Tunisian economy should be able to perform well. The country enjoys a well-educated middle class, a relatively stable work force, low labour costs and a good infrastructure.

Middle East Report

10 MAY 1990

## From Jordan, a new bid to free the dove

By H.R.H. Crown Prince Hassan



AMMAN - An unprecedented opportunity exists for Israel to arrive at accommodation with its neighbours and to tackle the festering issues that have haunted our region for generations. Jordan, like other fair-minded Arab states, stands ready to seize the opportunity in a spirit of co-operation and goodwill.

As we enter the 1990s, the long-standing problems concerning Palestine, the occupied territories, Lebanon, the Gulf and economic development in the area seem nowhere near solution. Procedural matters seem to be an obsession with regional officials. The Middle East situation has become a surrealistic minut.

Meanwhile, the opportunity for a genuinely lasting peace diminishes, and recedes, daily.

An expanding fundamentalist Islamic movement, influential in Muslim societies from South-east Asia to North Africa, may become active in the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza. Unless peace prevails, there will be a different kind of war to contend with. It will be a war not between nation-states but one waged against the nation-state, a war of attrition that aims to reduce national entities to their components.

And the only triumphant residue of such a war would be political and religious fundamentalism - Islamic, Christian and Jewish. The fanatical war, if unchecked, could extend from Cairo to Islamabad and beyond, bringing the ethnic Lebanonisation of our region. Make no mistake: The threat is real.

Jordan believes that for the peace process to succeed, both Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation must offer practical options to their peoples. Jordan is committed to a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The most appropriate vehicle for achieving this is an international conference under United Nations auspices.

We cannot afford to wait. The

Arabs and Israelis must be induced to talk, and talk now.

The Arab-Israeli conflict has inflicted heavy demographic and economic burdens on Jordan. We have also incurred financial burdens in our efforts to stabilize the situation in the Gulf. Our goals have been to check Iran's quest for hegemony over the region and its vital resources, and to contain the rise of religious fanaticism. The formulation of moderate policies and practical approaches, based on an Arab consensus, has long been a Jordanian national objective. Today, with few signs that the endemic problems of the region are moving toward an equitable solution, the "Jordanian agenda" has become a cry of conscience.

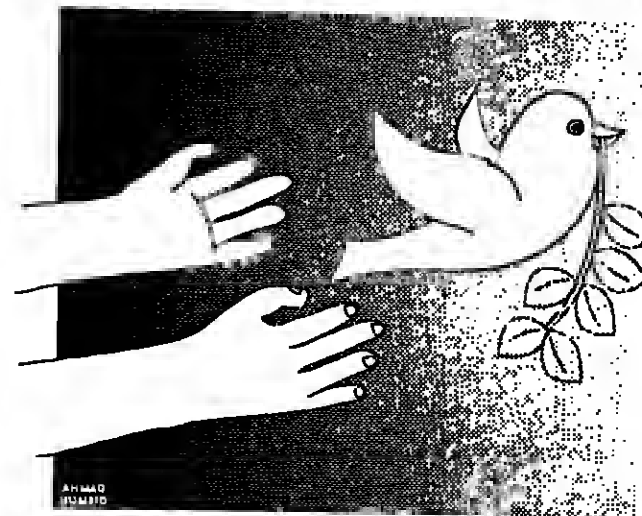
In the belief that a drastic joint was needed to make the peace process viable again, King Hussein embarked in July 1988 on a fresh course to renew Palestinian responsibility for the liberation of its own homeland by severing administrative and legal links with the Israeli-occupied West Bank. That decision served to define an identity for Palestinians distinct from Jordan or any other Arab country, and positioned them to conduct international negotiations to secure Palestinian national rights.

Regrettably, Israel has not joined in the spirit of accommodation. Instead, it has chosen to shift attention from the critical issue of peace - this time, to gather all its resources to welcome a new wave of emigration

from the Soviet Union. This emigration provides a powerful case for Israeli expansionists to keep the occupied territories as a home for the new arrivals. The result is a threat to all peace initiatives.

Peace in the Middle East will remain elusive as long as Israel denies the existence of the principal aggrieved party in the dispute - the Palestinian people. Successive Israeli prime ministers have tried to deal with the Palestine question through third parties. For several years Israel toyed with the "Jordanian option," and currently it appears to have appointed Egypt as surrogate.

But it is neither Jordan's nor Egypt's responsibility to participate in this subterfuge. Nor should they, since it would signify their acquiescence to the denial of the Palestinians' fundamental right in national self-determination.



Peace presumes that the other party attempt a comparable transformation of attitudes, values and outlook. That is not the case here. Israel, under Yitzhak Shamir, is intent on squandering its opportunity, by refusing to accept the exchange of land for peace - the only acceptable basis for a just and lasting settlement - as embodied in UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which call for a withdrawal by foreign forces from the occupied territories, and

which also implicitly recognise the existence of Israel as a sovereign state.

Confronted by growing Palestinian moderation, Israel has been engaged in an energetic attempt to frustrate Mr Shamir's own proposal for elections in the occupied territories. But as Israel continues to deny the right of the PLO to represent the Palestinian people, the real purpose of the Israeli "elections" becomes clear: to drive a wedge between the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and their recognised leaders in the PLO.

The end of traditional Cold War confrontation has altered the strategic importance of the Middle East. While the superpowers must assume greater responsibility in expediting the peace process, Jordan has also advocated the concept of greater regional and interregional economic co-operation. Such co-

operation is a relatively new grouping known as the Arab Co-operation Council, or ACC, which consists of Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen. Our idea is to think in practical terms about common concerns, such as water, energy, transportation and telecommunications. After all, Israelis and Arabs share a common geography and a common history.

The development of a sophisticated long-term strategy is required. The Palestine question is susceptible to compromise. I believe that it is possible to accommodate both the political requirements of the Palestinians and the resettlement of Soviet Jews.

The United States, the Soviet Union, Europe and the parties concerned in the dispute must work in concert to generate momentum for peace.

Since the Israeli settlements in the occupied territories violate international law, the United States and European nations should predicate their subsidisation of the immigration and resettlement of Soviet Jews on Israel's freezing all settlement activity in the occupied territories. They can do much to ameliorate this difficult situation by increasing annual quotas for Soviet Jews to settle in their own countries.

For our part, Jordan renews its call for an Arab summit meeting to formulate a peace strategy that would safeguard the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and the security and stability of the Arab regional order. We also call for intensified consultation both bilaterally and among regional organisations.

And Jordan wishes to renew its call for an international peace conference under the auspices of the UN Security Council. Such a conference will be an appropriate forum to deal with the problem once other methods have been exhausted. We hold out both a challenge and an olive branch to the Israelis. Will they seize the opportunity for a lasting peace?

International Herald Tribune.

## Jerusalem doesn't belong to Jews alone

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a response written by Mr Salameh Abdul Hadi, press secretary to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, to an article by Mr Tedd Kollek, Israeli mayor of occupied Jerusalem, both of which were published in The New York Times recently.

Tedd Kollek's article on the Op-Ed page of The New York Times (April 15, 1990) rather less than subtly celebrates the fact that the pro-Israel lobby in the United States enjoys the ability to persuade top American officials to retract statements that displease Israeli leaders. The mayor of Jerusalem also seems to take pride that Washington has now adopted the "right" stance on Jerusalem.

Nevertheless, Mayor Kollek's talk of a unified Jerusalem remaining the eternal capital of Israel sounds ominous to the hundreds of millions of Muslims and Christians who have a deep attachment to Jerusalem and who take a legitimate interest in its status. Similarly, Mr Kollek's remarks about Israel "protecting the holy places for Jews, Christians and Muslims alike" sound surrealistic.

It is not insignificant that at the moment when Mr Kollek was penning his thoughts, the Israeli government was financing the occupation of St John's Hospice in Jerusalem by Jewish fundamentalists. These attitudes—and indeed even actions—of some of these fundamentalists often mirror those of some members of the government itself.

Mayor Kollek's article is espe-

cially ironic, considering the damage and destruction inflicted by Israeli occupation forces on Muslim and Christian places of worship.

Mr Kollek seems to be an artful practitioner of Orwellian double-speak. He asserts that the Arab population of Jerusalem has grown under Israeli annexation — annexation which the mayor glibly calls "redrawing of municipal boundaries" — from 70,000 to 150,000. This doubling of population did not result from a dramatically high birth rate among Arabs, nor from a sudden influx of Arabs desirous of enjoying Israeli benevolence. The sad reality behind the demographics is the incorporation into municipal Jerusalem of more than 20 per cent of the total area of the West Bank.

We in Jordan believe that Jeru-

salem is too important to be the capital of any one state — least of all, Israel. The right of Jews to worship in Jerusalem certainly cannot be denied. But it is also the right of Muslims and Christians — also people of the book, like the Jews — to enjoy unhindered access to holy places in Jerusalem.

The international consensus rejecting Israel's unilateral annexation of Jerusalem is predicated on justice and morality.

We realise that Israel is an important country in the view of America and Americans. But public perceptions in the United States about issues pertaining to justice and fairness must not be allowed to be continually shaped and reshaped by clever lobbyists, however powerful, nor by influential office holders, however glib, such as Teddy Kollek.

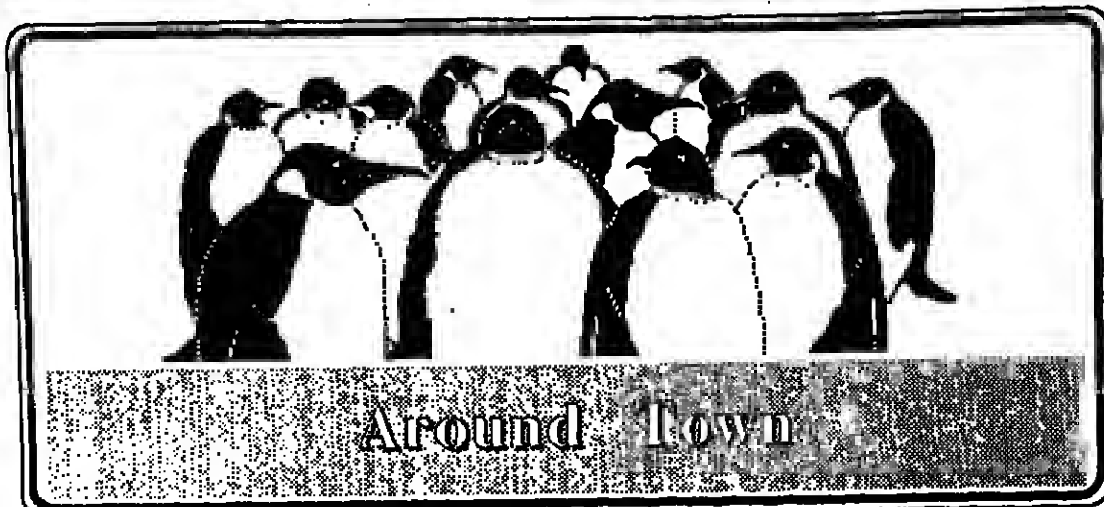
## Seminar on Palestine in Sweden

Amman (Star) — "Peace and justice for the Palestinian people - an imperative for the 1990s" is the theme for a United Nations regional seminar on Palestine organised in Stockholm, Sweden, between 7 and 11 May.

Leading Palestinian representatives will participate together with some Israeli members of Knesset and a long list of international political personalities. The seminar will be opened by Mr Sten Andersson, Sweden's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr Ronald T. Spiess, of the United Nations. Several panel discussions will be organised during the seminar.

THE STAR 15





## Around Town

### Royal attendance of Tal Al Rumman Race

His Majesty King Hussein participated Friday in Tal Al Rumman speed test race along with 43 competitors. The King equalled his own record of last year for the three-kilometre climb at 22.00 minutes. Attending the race were Her Majesty Queen Noor, Their Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Al Hussein and Princess Alla, Her Royal Highness Princess Alla bint Al Hussein and other members of the Royal family.

Mr Mohammed Al Saleh came in first place. His time was 4:11.86 minutes. Mr Halim Al Mufti came in second followed by Mr George Khayyat in third place and Mr Issa Halabi came in fourth place.

Mr Hassan Al Tabaa came in fifth, Mr Hassan Ala'uddin sixth, Mr Sinan Al Saudi seventh, Mr Ghaith Bilbeisi eighth, Mr Genge Lama ninth and Mr Tareq Al Tabaa tenth.

Deputising for King Hussein, Queen Noor awarded Saturday the winners of last season's Jordan Rally and the Tal Al Rumman race trophies and prizes. Mr Jack Khayyat was honoured for being the oldest rally driver in Jordan. Young champion Mohammed Shishani received a JD 2000 award from Silk Cut for showing a promising track record. Also honoured were Issa Halabi, Haitham Mufti, Nasser Bustami, Alfred Shamoun, Marouf Abu Samra, Lath Al Qasem and Nabil Dirani.



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor (above) exchange remarks with an organiser while Their Highnesses Prince Faisal and Prince Alla (left) watch one of the climbs

### Department of Antiquities.

The Jordan Computer Society's general assembly met on Friday and elected a new management board of the following: Mr Faez Al Qudsi, Mr Said Shugm, Mr Hussein Al Qawasm, Mr Hazem Milhem, Mr Hisham Al Burghouti, Mr Marwan Al Batnyeh and Mr Ghazi Al Qarout.

Mr Anil Wats, regional sales and operations manager (Middle East and Arab Gulf countries) for Sea-Land Inc, Dubai, was recently the guest of T. Gargour & Fils. Shipping. Mr Wats gave an interesting lecture with video and slides demonstrations on the various aspects of Sea-Land, its history, achievements and policy towards its customers. A number of Gargour seniors and staff attended the lecture.

Accompanying the West German ophthalmologist Dr Holger Busse on his visit to Jordan at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Ra'ad bin Zaid, is the syndicated German journalist Renate Denigri, who visits Jordan for the first time. She says that she heard about the case of Jordanian child Ja'fer Momani from Dr Butros Al Tawil and the German press and decided to cover Dr Busse and Dr Tawil's visit to Jordan, who were both honoured by His Majesty King Hussein. She expressed her happiness for meeting King Hussein



Ms Denigri

### National Gallery celebrates anniversary in style...

The Jordan National Gallery celebrated its tenth anniversary last week with a superb dinner which was attended by Her Majesty Queen Noor, Their Royal Highness Princess Servath, Princess Ra'ad, Princess Majda and by more than 100 guests who have all been connected with and supportive of the gallery since it opened in 1980.

The dinner was held in the spacious second floor of the gallery, where the guests sat surrounded by works of art by artists from all over the Islamic World.

As the guests took their places each one was delighted to find a small painting waiting for them - the Arabic initial of their name beautifully and individually executed by Princess Wijdan herself. As president of the Royal Society of Fine Arts, Princess Wijdan has been the driving force behind the establishment of the Jordan National Gallery whose collection now numbers over 1,000 works of art including oil paintings, delicate watercolours, ceramics, textile hangings and sculptures. Drawn from a vast geographical area, this unique collection of art by Islamic and Arab artists is the only one of its kind in the world. The gallery is a private, non-profit institution that relies almost solely on donations.

In an after dinner speech, Princess Wijdan thanked all of those who had given to their time and their money to make the National gallery what it is today.

Princess Wijdan also announced the award of a scholarship to study at Yarmouk University for a second year student. Special awards were also given to Ali Jabri for art given in the service of the community and to the director of the National gallery, Mr Suhail Bisharat for his service to the gallery. Princess Wijdan also announced that the Municipality of Amman had donated a piece of land to the site of the new building of the Jordan National gallery.



Princess Wijdan



Prince Ra'ad awarding Dr Busse (centre) and Dr Tawil medals on behalf of King Hussein

His Majesty King Hussein has awarded the West German ophthalmologist Dr Holger Busse the Independence Order of the First Degree and Jordan Dr Butros Al Tawil who was awarded the Independence order of the Second Degree for their efforts to perform a cornea transplant operation on the 10-year-old boy Jordanian Ja'fer Momani last month. Dr Busse said, in an interview with The Star, that he was surprised to receive the Order, which he considers a great honour, because "I was only doing my duty to help a suffering child." He said he was happy to meet Ja'fer and his family at their village and was overwhelmed by "their deep friendship."

Dr Busse said he saw an opportunity for many joint activities in the field of ophthalmology to be established between Jordan and West Germany, especially in exchanging physicians and training staff. He said he was working to establish a German-Jordan society for co-operation to prevent blindness. "We also want to support Jordan's Eye Bank with material for transplantation and finding sponsors," he said.

Dr Busse, who is Jordan at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Ra'ad, said he was deeply impressed by the personalities of King Hussein and Prince Ra'ad. He added that he was surprised to find a modern and sophisticated society in Jordan.

who "is among great world leaders." She also praised Prince Ra'ad for his modesty and dedication.

Helen Taylor is leaving Amman after a happy two-year stay. She hopes to keep herself busy so as not to notice she has gone. Helen and husband Patrick, who has been lecturing at the Queen Noor Civil Aviation School hosted a large farewell gathering last Thursday and have been caught up in a round of other folk's good-byes ever since, including a buffet hosted by Fiza and Pauline Waters on Wednesday night. In between times Helen managed to fit in a trip to Damascus for some essential last minute shopping.

Leaving? Partying? Celebrating? Drop us a line...today! People, P O Box 9313, Amman-Jordan.

10 MAY 1990



### Through Zohrab's lens: A feast of colour and tradition



### By it Star Staff Writer

AMMAN - Zohrab and the camera go back a long way. For the last 20 years Zohrab's love for Jordan, its people and landscape, has kept him busy travelling all over the Kingdom, climbing up its sacred hills, walking through its narrow canyons, hovering over Dead Sea cliffs in a helicopter and registering Wadi Rum's breathtaking sunsets on film.

Zohrab's latest project is a joint venture with renowned fashion designer Hana Beraudo a combination of folkloric costumes and the distinguished art of photography. For two months now Zohrab and a team of amateur models have been touring various parts of the country to locate scenic settings for hundreds of photographs on traditional Arab costumes. Zohrab and Beraudo will both exhibit their fine art in a joint exhibition to be held in November of this year.

"Our aim is to bring the Arabs together through the colourful variety of their traditional costumes," says Zohrab. "I am taking the pictures and Hana Beraudo will provide the costumes and silver jewelry in a live fashion show."

Zohrab has been taking advantage of nature's explosion of colours this spring and has taken photographs in areas such as Wadi Al Sham near Ajloun, Wadi Seer and Wadi Karak. Modelling Beraudo's dresses are Tala Asfour, Zein Hamzeh, Lulu Bisharat and Taghreed Darwazeh. Zohrab hopes to exhibit 80 poster size pictures in the November exhibition which will focus on costumes from Jordan and Palestine, in addition to others from Iraq and Morocco.

He also hopes to use the pictures in calendars and postcards. "This is only the beginning," Zohrab says. "We need another two months to finish the project but we are in dire need of long-term sponsors for this and other projects." He is disappointed with the Ministry of Tourism, which in his opinion is "not encouraging us." He admits that while reaction to his previous projects boosted his morale, he lost a great deal of money from

his personal funds. "The only supporter was His Majesty King Hussein and I am grateful to him for backing me."

Zohrab's last project was a photographic extravaganza on Jordan entitled "Land for All Seasons" whose 5000 printed copies were all sold out. The book, which was sponsored by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, depicted picturesque views of Jordanian landscape.

In his pursuit of his life-long goal of marketing Jordan's tourist attractions, Zohrab has proposed a number of ideas, "I am thinking of doing a 20 to 25-minute television documentary about Jordanian landscapes to be shown all over the world," he says.

Zohrab dispelled rumors that he had left Jordan for good. "I owe Jordan my life. I am here and I have lots of plans. The only reason that I was away for one year was because of family

problems." Zohrab, who is the personal photographer of King Hussein, says that the difference between photographing landscapes and models is one of style. In model photographs Zohrab deals with life and "that feeling without which the picture is dead." He says that his latest assignment has been a big challenge for him because in each photograph he has to "catch that split second of light, movement and beauty."

He says that his feeling for photography only works in Jordan. "My love for Jordan has enabled me to create something." When he travels abroad, Zohrab rarely takes his camera with him.

But here in Jordan, the landscape motivates him and he is always seeking a setting for a picture that will capture the spirit of the country. "The camera has become an extension of myself... through its lens I live my life," he says.



THE STAR 17



# Successful launching of Jordan's first golf course

● HIS ROYAL Highness Prince Faisal bin Al Hussein inaugurated Tuesday, 1 May, Jordan's first Open Golf championship at the newly opened Bisharat Golf Course. Prince Faisal praised steps taken to establish the club in Jordan and added that the opening will launch Jordan into the group of nations which support this international sport. He also noted the support given by Hotel Jordan InterContinental to sports and youth movements in the Kingdom.

More than 60 players from many countries participated in the opening day matches, which lasted for over 12 hours. Among those who played were His Royal Highness Prince Ra'd bin Zaid, Senator Kamel Al Sharif and the ambassadors of Pakistan, Belgium, Japan, Korea, the EEC in addition to businessmen and members of the diplomatic corps in Jordan. Also attending was Qatar's ambassador to the Soviet Union.

At the end of the matches Prince Ra'd, Hotel Jordan InterContinental's General Manager Mr. Majeed Khalil and Mr. Bisharat Al Ilsharat, the club's director, each delivered a speech expressing their gratitude for His Majesty King Hussein's support of sports and activities in Jordan.

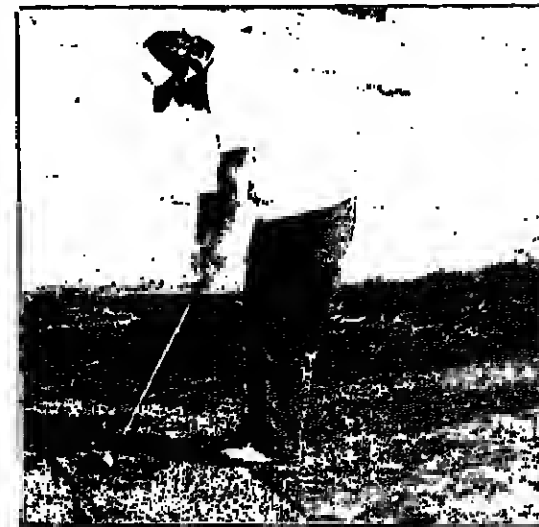
Sentor Al Sharif expressed his admiration of the club's facilities and said he hoped the club will enhance relations between Jordanians and members of diplomatic missions in Jordan.

Prince Faisal awarded prizes to the winners who were:

1st Mr Shishl Dutter, 2nd Mr Tariq Afridi, 3rd Mr Nigel Peters, the prize for beginners went to Mr Chris Auricht.



Mr Majeed Khalil shakes hand with one of the winners as Prince Faisal watches on



Prince Ra'd attempts to score



● The Fifth Arab Clubs Basketball Championship will conclude this evening at the Orthodox Club grounds. The championship was opened last Wednesday under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, who patronised His Royal Highness Prince Faisal. Eleven teams from 10 Arab countries participated. Six clubs also participated in the First Women's Championship.

Finalists for the men's tournament were Al Ahli (Egypt), Al Itihad (Syria), Al Orthodoxy (Jordan), Al Rashid (Iraq), Kathima (Kuwait) and Uhhud (Saudi Arabia) clubs.

Jordan's Orthodoxy beat Al Rashid in the first round but was defeated by the same team in the final round 95/77.

Observers say this is the strongest championship since it was first started in 1972.

Participating in the women's tournament are Al Mala'ib Al Tunisi (Tunisia), Malahat Hussein Dci (Algeria), Al Thawra (Syria), Al Shurta (Iraq), Al Orthodoxy (Jordan) and Al Ahli (Jordan).



● The Philadelphia International Hotel in Amman in co-operation with Meridien hotels in Damascus has organised a reception party in honour of representatives of national, regional and international tourism and aviation companies in Jordan to market joint tourist activities between Jordan and Damascus.

A delegation from Meridien hotels was in Amman to reciprocate a previous visit to Syria by Philadelphia International Hotel General Manager Mr Faisal Abu Nuwar. The managements of Philadelphia International, Holiday International-Aqaba, Ishar Hotel-Main and Dead Sea hotel have put forward plans to lure international tourists to Jordan.

● The Jordanian-Italian Friendship Society opened its cultural season on Saturday with a lecture on "Graffiti in Wadi Rum" at the YWCA, which was given by Dr Professor Edoardo De Borzatti from the Anthropology Institute University of Florence in Italy. He presented slides of graffiti found on the rock surfaces of Wadi Rum.

His work is the result of in-depth research, which he started in 1974. He studied the Hweilat bedouins living in the south of Jordan to help him understand the origins and the psychology of these people which was reflected on the engraved rocks of Wadi Rum. He found that graffiti was a method used by bedouins to express themselves. The art was for the narrative and violent type depicting hunting scenes.

**The Star**  
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10 MAY 1990

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## Programmes of Jordan Television from 12 to 18 May

### ENGLISH PROGRAMME

#### Saturday

8:30 - Surgical Spirit (Educating Daniel): Sheila Sabatini discovers that her son, Daniel, has been thrown out of boarding school and nominates a reluctant Jonathan Haslam to tell him to behave himself.

9:00 - Encounter, hosted by Rami Khouri.

9:30 - Documentary (Mozart and Salzburg): In this documentary we will get to know something about the life story of the famous classical music composer of the 18th century, Mozart.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - Feature films (An Unsuitable Job for a woman): A rich man's son commits suicide and a young woman detective is asked to look into the case.

#### Sunday

8:30 - Who's the Boss?

9:10 - World of Puppetry (Philippe Genty): An inventive artist, Genty uses every facet of puppetry, which he prefers to call "the theatre of animation", from stringed marionettes to hand puppets.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - Agatha Christie's Poirot (The Disappearance of Mr Davenheim): Inspector Japp believes he's on to easy money when Poirot accepts his wager to solve the mysterious disappearance of city banker Mathew Davenheim, without ever leaving Whitehaven Mansions.

#### Monday

8:30 - Perfect Strangers

9:10 - FIFA Soccer.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - The Ginger Tree: In this episode Mary starts her successful fashion design business.

#### Tuesday

8:30 - Charles in Charge:

9:10 - The Nuclear Age: Here you get to hear about the origin of the cold war in the aftermath of the World War II. When the Russians possessed an atomic bomb in 1949, the arms race began in earnest.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - In The Heat of The Night (And then You Die): Escaped convict Lester Sproles and his girlfriend, Audine, travel through Mississippi, leaving a trail of bodies in their wake.

#### Wednesday

8:30 - Laara and disorder:

Leura's latest adventure is treasure hunting but the consequences are not quite what she expected.

9:10 - A Horseman Riding By: Paul continues to support the peasants and adopts their causes wholeheartedly.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - Hemingway: Ernest Hemingway attained celebrity at the age of 25. He is the story of the man and his four wives.

10 MAY 1990



Surgical Spirit, Saturday at 8:30

#### Thursday

8:30 - Bill Cosby Show: A friend of Mathew's gives his girl a gift, a stolen watch, which he found and thus loses her love.

9:10 - NBA Basketball.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - Movie of the week (The Inglorious Bastards): Starring Bo Svenson and Peter Hooten: Five soldiers are about to be court martialled during the Second World war. But they escape through France, hoping to reach the Swiss border.

#### Friday

8:30 - Robert Guillaume show.

9:10 - Beauty and the Beast: Diana takes care of Vincent who recovers. She tries hard not to get involved emotionally and Vincent goes underground again.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - Quincy.

### FRENCH PROGRAMME

#### Saturday

5:45 - Chanips Elysees: A variety programme by Michel Drucker.

7:00 - News in French.

7:15 - Aujourd'hui en France: A cultural magazine.

7:30 - French Varieties.

7:45 - French Varieties.

7:55 - Tel Pere Tel Filis: A comedy series.

6:15 - L'ecole Des Faas: A programme for children by Jacques Martin. His guest is Michel Albert, the pianist.

7:00 - News in French.

7:15 - French varieties.

7:30 - French varieties.

7:45 - French varieties.

7:55 - French varieties.

#### Monday

6:10 - L'homme et la Nature/ Terres Arides: a documentary sponsored by the UNESCO.

7:00 - News in French.

7:15 - The Weekly Sports Magazine.

7:30 - L'appart/39: A comedy series.

7:45 - News in French.

7:55 - Ajour'hui en Jordanie: A local magazine by Saleh Madi.

8:00 - Aucasin et Nicolette: A cartoon for children.

6:15 - Chiffres et Lettres: A game show.

6:35 - L'appart/39: A comedy series.

7:00 - News in French.

7:15 - Ajour'hui en Jordanie: A local magazine by Saleh Madi.

7:30 - L'appart/39: A comedy series.

7:45 - News in French.

7:55 - "Symbole Animal": A documentary programme.

8:00 - News in French.

8:15 - French Varieties.

8:30 - French Varieties.

8:45 - French Varieties.

9:00 - French Varieties.

9:15 - French Varieties.

9:30 - French Varieties.

9:45 - French Varieties.

10:00 - French Varieties.

10:15 - French Varieties.

10:30 - French Varieties.

10:45 - French Varieties.

11:00 - French Varieties.

11:15 - French Varieties.

11:30 - French Varieties.

11:45 - French Varieties.

12:00 - French Varieties.

# ROGER EBEL ON MOVIES

★★★★★

## Mini Reviews

LOOK WHO'S TALKING (PG-13, 96 m., 1989) may sound contrived, with its ads promising the voice of Bruce Willis as a baby, but the movie is a surprise, lightweight but charming. Kirstie Alley stars, and glows, as a single mother who is courted by a taxi driver (John Travolta) who falls in love with both mother and child. And the movie undeniably has some of the cutest baby scenes in movie history, although it probably could have done without the Bruce Willis voice-overs. Rating: ★★

SHIRLEY VALENTINE (R, 108 m., 1989) is an unsuccessful film adaptation of the stage success, with Pauline Collins repeating in the title role. The movie tells the story of a bored British housewife who shares a free trip to Greece, is seduced and abandoned by a beachfront lover, and then finds happiness and identity as a waitress in his restaurant. As a one woman monologue, this material may have worked on the stage, but the movie fleshes it out into unbearable banality. Rating: ★

QUEEN OF HEARTS (No MPAA rating, 115 m., 1989) is a charming, magical movie - sort of a British version of "Moonstruck," about an Italian family that moves to London, opens a cafe, and struggles to make ends meet and fight off the family's ancient enemies. The story is seen through the eyes of the family's young son, an imaginative and resourceful kid who gets into trouble but rescues himself through his complete faith in the family's destiny. There's just a hint of the supernatural in the story, which was directed by Jon Amiel - who made TV's "The Singing Detective," and made this film as sunny as that series was bleak. Rating: ★★ and a half.

JOHNNY HANDSOME (R, 100 m., 1989) takes place on the seedy side of New Orleans, where a crook is named Johnny Handsome because he was born with a disfigured face. A prison surgeon performs plastic surgery on Johnny (Mickey Rourke), who goes on probation with the prospect of a new life, and soon wins the love of a girl (Elizabeth McGovern) who believes in him. But he is drawn back into his dark past and his dreams of revenge. Directed by Walter Hill, who resists the temptation to repack this classic film noir material and is simply true to the tradition. Rating: ★★ and a half.

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## US Sports Round Up

## SPORTS FROM THE PRESSBOX

By Lee Lerner

Wade Boggs, Boston's hitman extraordinaire, had dug himself into the batters' box and was sporting a mask of concentration. He was set, but just before the pitcher went into motion a fan disrupted the scene.

"Hey, Boggs. Hit one for Margol!"

The moment shattered. Boggs stepped out and glared into the seats. It was only spring training, but Boggs is all business when it comes to hitting a baseball.

He stepped back in, but promptly fouled out in back of third.

In that at-bat, the pitcher and one of Boggs' detractors won out. Yet most know that Boggs isn't shown up often.

Boggs, of course, is not human. How could he be? How could anyone of

flesh and blood, not to mention emotions, go through what he has and still have a .352 lifetime average?

"Margol" is Margo Adams, Boggs' well-publicized mistress of seasons past. For those unaware, Boggs' affair with Adams culminated last season with Boggs' story going nationwide in various magazines and on a Barbara Walters interview.

Obviously, the notoriety didn't affect him adversely. He hit .330 and missed the batting title by only nine points.

"Wade is unbelievable," Red Sox teammate Roger Clemens says. "Year after year, he's a machine."

His 3-for-4 outing opening day helped him reach the 1,600-hit plateau faster than the top 10 players on the all-time hit list.

Despite the numbers, some never let Boggs forget his mistakes.

But it's a given that Boggs will cope with those types because the hits just keep on coming.

## SPORTS LINE

By Dale Dunlap

Can there possibly be any doubt Ryne Sandberg is the best second baseman in baseball? The 30-year-old Cubs star has been very quietly compiling Hall of Fame numbers entering his ninth full major-league season.

Last season, he led the Chicago Cubs to the National League East crown by hitting .290 with 30 home runs and 76 runs batted in. In doing so, he became the first Cubs second baseman since Rogers Hornsby to hit 30 or more homers in a season.

He also led the league in runs scored and threw in 15 stolen bases. OK, you say, Ryne can hit. Can he field? Well, he went more than three months without making an error last season. He entered this season with 90 consecutive errorless games and quickly broke Joe Morgan's record of 91 errorless games.

He also won a Gold Glove last year. But that's nothing for Sandberg. He has won seven consecutive Gold Gloves.

So he can hit and field. What can't he do? Well, scouts only can point to the fact Sandberg is not very good on catching pop-ups. (Strange for a Gold Glover, but understandable considering Chicago's notorious winds.)

The man Vin Scully once described as the "Prince of the Cubs" has had some trouble living up to his superstar billing since his magical 1984 season.

That year Sandberg hit .314 with 19 home runs and 84 runs batted in. He also walked away with the Most Valuable Player award in leading the Cubs to the division title. But day in and day out Sandberg has been the heart of the Cubs, ever since he was acquired as third baseman from the Philadelphia Phillies in 1982 in return for Ivan DeJesus.

## TOP POP SINGLES

1. Black Velvet, Allanah Myles, Atlantic
2. I'll Be Your Everything, Tommy Page, Warner Bros.
3. I Wish It Would Rain Down, Phil Collins, Atlantic
4. Love Will Lead You Back, Taylor Dayne, Arista
5. Don't Wanna Fall In Love, Jane Child, Warner Bros.
6. All Around the World, Lisa Stansfield, Arista
7. Get Up!, Technotronic, SBK
8. Here and Now, Luther Vandross, Epic
9. Keep It Together, Madonna, Warner Bros.
10. Escapade, Janet Jackson, A&M

## TOP VIDEO RENTALS

1. Turner & Hoach, Tom Hanks, Touchstone Home Video (PG-1989)
2. Lethal Weapon 2, Mel Gibson, Danny Glover, Warner Home Video, (R-1989)
3. The Package, Danny Aiello, Ossie Davis, Orion Home Video, (R-1989)
4. Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, Harrison Ford, Sean Connery, Paramount Home Video, (PG-13-1989)
5. Parenthood, Steve Martin, Dianne Wiest, MCA Home Video (PG-13-1989)
6. Uncle Buck, John Candy, MCA Home Video (PG-1989)
7. Field of Dreams, Kevin Costner, Amy Madigan, MCA Home Video, (PG-1989)
8. When Harry Met Sally..., Billy Crystal, Meg Ryan, Nelson Home Entertainment (R-1989)
9. Weekend at Bernie's, Andrew McCarthy, Jonathan Silverman, IVE (PG-13-1989)

## TOP POP ALBUMS

1. Nick of Time, Bonnie Raitt, Capitol
2. Forever Your Girl, Paula Abdul, Virgin
3. Janet Jackson's Rhythm Nation 1814, Janet Jackson, A&M
4. Soul Provider, Michael Bolton, Columbia
5. Allannah Myles, Allannah Myles, Atlantic
6. Pump, Aerosmith, Geffen
7. ... But Seriously, Phil Collins, Atlantic
8. Cry Like a Rainbow, Howl Like the Wind, Linda Ronstadt, Elektra
9. Come Thing, The B-52's, Reprise
10. Girl You Know It's True, Milli Vanilli, Arista

## Video Rentals In Jordan

- 1- Born of the fourth of July / Tom Cruise
  - 2- Cold Front / Martin Sheen / Michael Ontkean
  - 3- Hard to Kill / Steven Seagal
  - 4- Magdalene / Nastassia Kinski / Steve Bond
  - 5- Stanley & Iris / Jane Fonda / Robert De Niro
- Courtesy of Video House

## Agenda

## Films

- The French Cultural Centre presents the feature film "Un Amour A Paris", starring Catherine Wilkening, Sunday 13 May at 8:30 p.m.
- The British Council presents the feature film "84 Charing Cross Road", starring Anne Bancroft, Wednesday 16 May at 6:00 p.m.
- The American Center presents the feature film "Who Framed Roger Rabbit", starring Bob Hoskins and Christopher Lloyd, Thursday 10 May at 7:00 p.m.

## Lectures

- Dr Manfred Lindner will lecture on "Es-Sadeh: An Important Archaeological Site in Southern Jordan" at the Goethe Institute on Saturday 12 May at 7:00 p.m. Also at the Institute Dr Suhail Yousef will lecture on "Architecture of the Jordanian Village between Traditional and Modern Times" (in German) on Tuesday 15 May at 7:00 p.m.

## Exhibitions

- Under the Patronage of HRH Princess Sarvath, an art exhibition by George Sarkis Kaplaniyan will open on Sunday 13 May at the Goethe Institute at 5:00 p.m. It will run until 16 May.
- Also under the patronage of HRH Princess Sarvath, Palestinian artist Laila Shawa will hold an exhibition of her works at the National Gallery on Thursday 10 May at 5:00 p.m.
- An exhibition by five Jordanian artists continues at Abdel Hamid Shoman Foundation gallery until 7 June. Open daily except Fridays.
- A mosaics and handicrafts exhibition will open at the Terr Sancia College under the patronage of Dr Ghazi Bishah of the Dept. of Antiquities on Saturday 12 May at 5:00 p.m. It will run until 18 May.

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## Crossword Puzzle

## ACROSS

1. Jezebel's daily
5. Capers
10. Labyrinth
14. County site of Sugarland Mountain
16. Antarctic cape
18. E.P.A. calls this a pesticide
17. Did a little job
18. G. Burns' hot companion
19. Capital of Latvia
20. Period fondly remembered now
23. Less unreasonable
24. Gnat
25. — over a new leaf
26. Film cutter
28. Place where nobody stops on a dime
31. Elbow follower
36. Juliet's emotion
40. Offence between 20 and 57
43. Celestial hunter
44. Another Jan. 1 delight (see 32 Down)
45. R.B.I., e.g.
46. Mislead
48. Part of concrete
50. Dispatched
52. "Sesame Street" grouch
57. Event on Jan. 1, 1990
62. Bridge
63. Felonous
64. Solemnly declare
65. — beaded like the —: Shak
66. Isabel was one
67. Fan footing
68. Fruit drinks
69. A component of liquor
70. Present lore Me led

## DOWN

1. Defeats
2. Beta predecessor
3. Fits a dull fighter and — guest: Shak
4. Elks congregate here
5. Like James Bond films
6. Vahalla V.I.P.
7. Crotch characters
8. Dido
9. Calm
10. Some Canadian provinces, with "The"
11. It's a Sin to Tell
12. Parts of slalom
13. Epoch
21. Tote offering
22. Tomorrow's precursor
26. Semovar
27. Took a taxi
28. Mrs. Helmer and Mrs. Charles
30. Exactly
31. Odd, in Ayr
32. What workers enjoy on Jan. 1
33. Disposition
34. Concerning
35. Diamond developed in Brooklyn
36. How many assemble at Times Square on New Year's Eve?
38. Big butte
41. Beneath
42. Retreat
47. All
49. Bambi's mom
51. Inflections
53. Certain snow jobs
54. Carp
55. Emulate Gaspar
56. Emulate Zsa Zsa
57. W.W.I. plane
58. Demel
59. — accomplish
60. British queen or pincups
61. Expense
62. Health resort

## Solution

ACROSS  
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59. — accomplish  
60. British queen or pincups  
61. Expense  
62. Health resort

## Jordan Bridge By Ghassan Ghanem

## I've Got Five Aces!

IN THE late forties, the late King Farouk of Egypt used to play bridge at the famous Royal Automobile club of Kasr El-Nesl street in Cairo. His Italian partner Pauley, who was also his barber, asked him during a bidding sequence about the number of kings he held by bidding 5N.

The answer was 6N and Pauley went into a long pause, as that answer was not one of the traditional answers agreed between them. 6N usually shows none or four kings, 6S, 6H and 6D show one, two and three kings successively, but 6N had never been used before and Pauley had no obvious explanation for it. So he decided to ignore it and bid as if his partner held four kings.

After the hand was played, the curious Italian, who was daring, asked his partner about his answer to the 5N. "I had five kings," King Farouk answered politely. "But you had only four kings, and..." said Pauley, who was also intelligent, as he suddenly understood the meaning of the alight smile of the king, who counted himself as a fifth king.

The kind-hearted king forgave the Italian for his ignorance, although some of his compatriots never did, even after forty years. They developed the traditional 4N blackwood to discover more information about the responder hand.

The new development is called, "The Five Aces Blackwood," and it depends on the simple idea that the deck includes five aces; the natural four aces, and the king of trump as a fifth ace, since it is as important as any of them.

The answers by responder are:  
5N none or three aces  
5S one or four aces  
5H two or five aces without the trump queen  
5D the same but with the trump queen.

To remember the answers is easy because they start none - one - two in ascending order with a difference of three compared to the other possibility.

The idea of keeping a relatively high difference between the two possibilities is to permit the asker to conclude the actual number accurately, since he can not go wrong due to the big difference and the information he can get by looking at his own hand.

A very important question is, "what if the partnership did not fix a suit?" If this is so, the bidding goes normally according to the original agreed upon answers of the Blackwood.

But the most important question is "How and when the suit is fixed?"

Some examples would illustrate the answer:

- \* 1♠ 3♠
- \* 1♠ 2♠
- \* 2♥ 4♥
- \* 1♠ 2♠
- \* 3♠ 4♥
- \* 1♠ 4♥
- \* 1♥ 2♠
- \* 3♥ 4♥
- \* 1♠ 3♠
- \* 3♥ 4♥

Diamond suit is fixed.

Heart suit is fixed.

Club suit is fixed.

Diamond suit is fixed.

Heart suit is fixed.

If you hold: ♠A973 ♥A6 ♠KQ84 ♠3 and the bidding goes: 1♠ - 3♠ - 4♥ - 3♠ then you know that your partner holds ♠K, ♠Q & ♠A, and probably these are all the high card points he holds. Now you bid 7♠ confidently. Enjoy your new way.

## JEANE DIXON'S Your Horoscope



ARIES (21 March - 19 April): Finances require careful handling. Back an emotional decision with logical arguments. Spending more time with family members will bring you the affection and sympathy you seek. Look to the future with confidence. Your associates will co-operate with your plans if they know exactly what is expected of them. Be certain your instructions are clearly understood. Success beckons!

TAURUS (20 April - 20 May): You are entering a period of big changes. Grab every interesting opportunity that comes your way. New professional alliances are indicated. Patience will help reduce stress in a personal relationship. Take advantage of an opportunity to acquire specialised knowledge. Romantic partner may express a desire for more freedom. Someone from your past resurfaces. Welcome a second chance.

GEMINI (21 May - 20 June): Happily, your energy level is highest in late morning. Schedule interviews and auditions accordingly. Mull over your long-term goals. Realise that, to truly forgive, you have to forget. Spend more time thinking about your future and the course you might take to make your dreams come true. A phone call will bring good financial news from overseas. Plan a trip.

CANCER (21 June - 22 July): Heed your intuitive feeling about a monetary matter. Unusual ideas arouse the interest of important people. A promotion in pay raise is in the offing. Be very careful who you share confidence with. Squelch a spur-of-the-moment impulse to buy something costly for your home. Wait until it goes on sale. The ability to speak a foreign language helps you unravel a business problem.

LEO (23 July - 22 Aug.): A great day for career and business matters. Avoid haste. An influential higher-up is impressed by your conservative approach. You must someone new in the most unlikely place! Finances should be looking good. Your keen intuition should be a terrific help when making important decisions. Discussing business with a friend over lunch should prove rewarding. Watch a tendency to dictate to your grown offspring.

VIRGO (23 Aug. - 22 Sept.): An aggressive manner pays off in business, but not in romance. Consideration and understanding are your greatest allies in affairs of the heart. Play your cards carefully. Loved one may be testing you. You could become privy to some valuable information this week. Be careful who you share it with. A frustrating alliance mercifully comes to an end. A mutual parting of the ways can be amicable.

LIBRA (23 Sept. - 22 Oct.): Get out and about this week. Make the most of influential social contacts. The support of a prominent associate convinces you that you are on the right track at last. Look ahead with confidence. Fighting fire with fire could leave a relationship in ashes; find a less volatile way! You may never discover if something you suspect is true. Pool business ideas to improve the bottom line.

SCORPIO (23 Oct. - 21 Nov.): Be wary of too many coincidences where a financial matter is concerned. Make a special effort to repay a past favour. A friend who discusses personal problem really wants sympathy, not advice! Being too introspective could make you a bore. Listening to music will put you in a better mood. Tonight is not the right time to broach a delicate subject. Keep the conversation casual.

SAGITTARIUS (22 Nov. - 21 Dec.): A financial question must be resolved without delay. A creative project could boost your income. Get in touch with influential friends who might help you. A relationship needs overhauling. An outsider may ask how you are being treated at work. Even if you do not feel you are getting a fair shake, be non-committal. Confidential dealings are earmarked for success.

CAPRICORN (22 Dec. - 19 Jan.): A no-nonsense attitude will sit well with those who matter most right now. Give top priority to insurance and tax matters. A new friend pays you a well-deserved compliment. Accept it gracefully. Stick to traditional values and you will do just fine. An agreement can be reached this week; help make it happen. Be candid with someone who loves you. Act on your financial hunches.

AQUARIUS (20 Jan - 18 Feb.): A work project should get top priority this week. Curb an urge to rest on your laurels and daydream. A change of plans may irritate mate or partner. Explain the urgency of the situation. Complete pending projects and bring accounts up to date. Family members are supportive; there is a new tranquility on the domestic scene. Make a point of getting more fresh air and exercise.

PISCES (19 Feb - 20 March): A conversation with a warmhearted relative cheers you. Someone who cares will urge you to be more adventurous. Think about it. Inspiration could come from an unusual experience. Romance is thrilling. Devote more time and energy to creative endeavours. Accepting an associate's challenge will give your self-confidence a boost. Welcome a new ally or partner. An expert's advice gives you insight.

THIS WEEK'S CHILDREN are dynamic, spontaneous and courageous. Independence and the freedom to discover things for themselves are vital to these children. Making their own mistakes seems to be the only way they learn about life. They find it difficult to save money; they live for "now." They find it difficult to concentrate on one project for a long time. Encourage them to break large jobs down into several small steps. They will need to learn diplomacy to find happy romance.

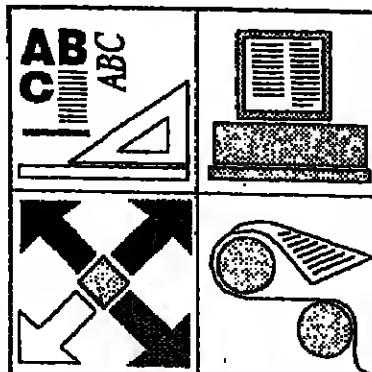
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Editorial & advertising telephone number: 648298	
Distribution: Jordan Distribution Agency, telephone: 630191	

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Church of the Redeemer: Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383	
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Armenian International Church: (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 827981	
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General

## COMICS

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## The Far Side

By GARY LARSON